FBIS DAILY REPORT

Middle East & North Africa

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VOL: PALESTINIAN ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL CANCELED

NC071250Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 7 Jan 79 NC

[Text] The disagreements among the Palestinian organization have prevented the holding of the armed festival, which was scheduled for 1130 today in the sports city. This festival was to be followed by a demonstration and an armed parade on the occasion of the Palestinian revolution anniversary.

Since early this morning and until just before noon some elements threw explosives in the At-Tariq al-Jadidah and the Sabra area for terrorist purposes. It became clear that these elements belong to the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Their actions were in response to the clashes which took place yesterday and the day before yesterday in Al-Biddawi and Sidon.

The organizations were put on the alert and tension rose. Then it was decided to cancel the festival today. Armed struggle units roamed the streets announcing the postponement of the festival indefinitely.

ARAB CONFERENCES TO CONVENE 15, 20 JANUARY

Jordanians Invited to PNC Meeting

JN041502Y Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 4 Jan 79 p 16 JN

[by Nabil 'Amr]

[Excerpt] The PLO has invited a number of personalities in Jordan to attend the Palestine National Council [PNC] meeting which will be held in Damascus on 15 January.

In another development, it has been learned that the visit of the PLO delegation to Amman has been postponed until after the PNC meeting. Faruq Qaddumi, alias Abu al-Lutf, head of the PLO Political Department, will arrive in Amman after the PNC meeting to coordinate political and information affairs, the bases of which were agreed on between Jordan and the PLO in light of the Baghdad summit resolutions.

20 Jan Minisummit Set

LD051035Y Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 5 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--A local newspaper said today that an Arab minisummit to include the leaders of Iraq, Syria, Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), will be held in Damascus on 20 January.

Quoting Arab diplomatic sources, AL-QABAS said that a Syrian-Iraqi summit will precede the minisummit in the form of the meeting of the Higher Political Committee, which the two countries had set up in accordance with the Charter of Action they signed last October. It added that the Syrian-Iraqi meeting is scheduled for 18 January and will be attended by Iraqi President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and by Vice Chairman of the Revolution Command Council Saddam Husayn.

It added that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Saddam Husayn will leave for Moscow after the quadripartite summit. It pointed out that this visit was due to have taken place last month but was postponed because of Syrian-Soviet differences over arms shipments, which Saddam Husayn was able to rectify during his visit to Moscow last month.

It said that there is a great possibility that Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat will accompany President Al-Asad and Saddam Husayn to Moscow if the forthcoming session of the Palestine National Council in Damascus on 15 January yields positive results.

EGYPT AGREES TO ATTEND ARAB LEAGUE MEETING IN MOGADISCIO

NC061425Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1315 GMT 6 Jan 79 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 6 January--Egypt today officially informed the Arab League Secretariat General of its agreement to hold the 71st session of the Arab League Council in Mogadiscio in March. Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad said that the Secretariat General has also received the agreement of Morocco, the YAR and the Sultanate of Oman to Somalia's request to host the meeting.

PALESTINIAN STUDENTS COUNCIL ELECTS EXECUTIVE BODY

JN061821Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab world 1515 GMT 6 Jan 79 JN

[Text] The Administrative Council of the General Federation of Palestinina Students held its 21st session at the provisional headquarters of its Executive Committee in Beirut today. During this session, which is the first since the conclusion of the eighth national conference, the following Executive Committee was elected:

Brother Ahmad Fakhr (?at-Tiko), chairman; brother 'Isam al-Ahmad, vice chairman for awareness and information affairs, and president of the Arab Students Federation [as heard]; brother Tawfiq at-Tirawi, vice chairman for foreign relations; brother Wasil (?al-Khutwah), vice chairman for internal and external affairs; brother Ahmad 'Abd ar-Razzaq, general secretary; brother Lu-ay 'Isa, treasurer; brother Zuhayr al-Wazir, secretary for the internal affairs of the branches outside the Arab homeland; brother 'Abd al-Latif Rayyan, secretary for the internal affairs of the branches in the Arab homeland; brother 'Abdallah an-Nimr, secretary for enlightment and information; brother Rawhi Fattuh, secretary for international relations in foreign affairs; and brother Yusuf al-'Iss, secretary for the international relations in Arab affairs.

The Administrative Council includes representatives from the Fatah and As-Sa'iqah organizations, the Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Jordanian Communist Party and the Arab Liberation Front.

The new Executive Committee is made up of 11 members, 9 of which are from the Fatah organization and one each from As-Sa'iqah and the communists.

Immediately after its election, the new Executive Committee held a meeting at which it defined its plan of action during the coming months. The committee decided to form a delegation under brother 'Isam al-Ahmad to participate in the meetings of the Executive Committee of the Arab Youth Federation to be held in Baghdad next Sunday.

PLO'S 'ARAFAT RECEIVES REVOLUTION DAY DELEGATIONS

JN051620Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab world 1515 GMT 5 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, met yesterday with the Arab and friendly delegations invited to participate in the celebrations of the 15th [as heard] anniversary of the Palestinian revolution.

The brother commander explained to the delegations the stages of the just struggle of the Palestinian people for the restoration of their legitimate national rights, including their right to repatriation, self-determination and establishment of their independent state on the soil of their homeland under their sole legitimate representative, the PLO. He also touched on the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary plots aimed at harming the Palestinian revolution. He stressed the determination of the Palestinian people to carry on their struggle until victory.

Abu 'Ammar then answered frankly and clearly questions asked by the members of the delegations. They expressed satisfaction with this [words indistinct].

Sends Support Letter to Khomeyni

JN061607Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab world 1515 GMT 6 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent a letter to religious leader Ayatollah Khomeyni in which he expressed his full support for the Iranian opposition movement. Brother Abu 'Ammar stressed the Palestinian revolution's readiness to offer all possible assistance to the Iranian people so they can achieve their aims against the regime of the agent shah.

The newspaper AN-NAHAR, published in Paris, said that a special envoy from brother Abu 'Ammar delivered the letter to Khomeyni at his temporary headquarters in Paris. The paper said that the Iranian religious leader asked the Palestinian envoy to convey his greetings to brother Abu 'Ammar and expressed his backing and support for the Palestinian revolution in all fields.

VOL: SYRIA MAY CONSIDER TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON

NC071826Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 7 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Head of the PLO Military Department Zuhayr Muhsin has stated that the Syrian withdrawal [from Lebanon] is one of the possibilities which the Syrian leadership will discuss if the situation in Lebanon remains unchanged. He added that the Lebanese crisis requires a brave and responsible decision by the Lebanese authorities and nobody else. The current crisis, he further said, is graver than the past crises.

Muhsin continued that there is no excuse for not implementing the Bayt ad-Din conference's resolutions. He accused President Sarkis of hesitation, noting that President Sarkis does not deny the charge of hesitation.

KUWAIT

OIL PRICE INCREASE, 1978 PRODUCTION RATE ANNOUNCED

LD0710247 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 7 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 7 Jan KUNA--Kuwait announced today that it has raised the price of its oil by 5 percent effective the beginning of January in implementation of OPEC resolutions. According to this increase, the price of a barrel of Kuwaiti crude oil is $12.83 during the first quarter of 1979.

It was announced today that Kuwait's average daily production in 1978 reached 1.9 million barrels, slightly below the government-fixed ceiling of 2 million barrels a day. Demand for Kuwaiti oil usually declines in the summer but goes up again in winter.

SAUDI ARABIA

CROWN PRINCE EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR SHAH

LS0608367 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0555 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Fahd ibn al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister, has expressed the kingdom's support for the regime of the shah on the grounds that it is based on legal legitimacy. He said that the kingdom supports any legal regime, that the regime of the shah is such a regime and for that reason and without any doubt we support its survival.

In his statement to today's Saudi paper AL-JAZIRAH, [words indistinct] that the events in Iran were of internal concern and expressed the hope that the Iranians themselves would put an end to the bloodshed among themselves. He stressed that the present situation in Iran was not in the interest of the Iranians themselves or of Islam and Muslims, but in the interest of the enemy, adding: This is a situation which does not achieve or help to achieve stability in the Middle East region.

KUWAITI PAPER SAYS SAUDIS TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH USSR, PRC

LD0809307 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 8 Jan--Kuwait's AS-SIYASAH today reports that Saudi Arabia has decided in principle to establish diplomatic relations with the USSR and that it is also convinced that it is essential for it to establish diplomatic relations with China as well.

Unofficial reports received from various capitals during the past few months have spoken of the possible establishment of relations between Riyadh and the two biggest communist countries in the world. However, no confirmation of this was received from any of the three capitals concerned.

Since its establishment, Saudi Arabia has taken an openly hostile attitude to communism and consequently has established no relations with any of the socialist countries.

But AS-SAYASAH quotes Arab and foreign diplomatic circles here as saying that the Saudi Government is now reevaluating its policy in the light of the anti-shah disturbances in Iran and what it considers to be a reluctance on the part of the United States to take action in the case of gulf and Middle East causes.

The Saudi administration, the paper adds, is convinced now, as a result of its reevaluation, that it should establish diplomatic relations with the USSR and that it is essential for it to establish normal relations with China, which is one of the world's main powers.

MINISTERS RECEIVE NATIONALIST CHINESE MINISTERS

LD061835Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0910 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Finance and National Economy Minister Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl this morning received at his office the nationalist Chinese Minister of Economic Affairs Chang Kwang-shih. The meeting, which was attended by the Saudi under secretary for economic affairs, dealt with economic issues of interest to the two countries.

The nationalist Chinese minister was also received this morning by the Planning Minister Hisham Nazir. They discussed planning and development issues of interest to the two countries.

CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH NATIONALIST CHINA

LD062330Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpt] An interim agreement was signed today between the Saudi Company for Basic Industries [SABIC] and the Taiwan Fertilizers Company for the construction and operations of a chemical fertilizer complex in Al-Jubayl, in the Eastern Region. The capacity of the complex will be 1,000 tons of ammonia and 1,600 tons of urea daily.

On the Saudi side, the agreement was signed by His Excellency Ghazi al-Qusayb[illegible] minister of industry and electricity and chairman of the board of the company, and on [illegible] Chinese side it was signed by Chang Kwang-shih, minister of economic affairs, who is currently visiting the kingdom.

It is expected the study of the capital costs, the economic and financial analyses and the preliminary engineering studies necessary for the project will be completed within 12 months. After the complex becomes operational, the Taiwan fertilizers company will undertake to buy 60 percent of the products of the Al-Jubayl project. A major part of these products will be exported to Taiwan to meet the needs of the Chinese market. SABIC previously signed several agreements with some U.S., Japanese and German companies for building petrochemical complexes for ethylene, methanol and iron in the industrial regions currently being built in Al-Jubayl and Yanbu', as it is responsible for the major industrial projects of the kingdom's industrialization program, which seeks to expand the base of the Saudi economy.

UAE

ECONOMY MINISTER LEAVES FOR SAUDI ARABIA FOR CONFERENCE

JN070755Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0650 GMT 7 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpt] Dubai, 7 January--His Excellency Sultan ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, minister of economy and trade, left for Saudi Arabia this morning at the head of the UAE delegation to attend the meetings of the second conference of the ministers of economy and trade of the gulf states. The conference will begin in Riyadh tomorrow.

CONTINGENT LEAVES TO JOIN DETERRENT FORCES IN LEBANON

JN061259Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1240 GMT 6 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Ras al-Khaimah, 6 Jan--An armed forces contingent this morning left Ras al-Khaimah for Lebanon to join the UAE Armed Forces in the Arab Deterrent Forces operating in Lebanon.

Col Sultan ibn Saqr al-Qasimi, deputy ruler of Ras al-Khaimah, made an address to the contingent lauding the pan-Arab role the UAE Armed Forces are performing in the Arab arena in addition to their role of defending the homeland. He also extended greetings to His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayan, the president of the republic and the commander in chief of the armed forces, and lauded the constant concern of his highness about the armed forces and their development and strengthening.

YEMEN--PDRY

PDRY LEADER LEAVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT TO ETHIOPIA

LD061826Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD/EA

[Summary] 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, Politburo member deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly and chairman of the Council of Ministers, today left Aden for a friendly visit to Ethiopia which will last several days.

"In a statement before leaving Aden, brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad said that his visit to socialist Ethiopia is aimed at strengthening relations between the two countries within the framework of the common interest in developing relations and exchanging information on issues of common interest and service to the good of our people and the furtherance of our two revolutions. [sentence as heard] He said that his meetings with Ethiopian officials will enable him to acquaint himself with the experience of the Ethiopian revolution and to brief others on our own experience and development of interest to the two revolutions and the two friendly countries.

"He said the Ethiopian and Yemeni revolutions have common features, and this has led to the promotion of friendly relations between them in such a way as to enable them to resist all imperialist, Zionist and reactionary schemes aimed at preventing our people's objectives and aspirations for freedom, social progress and the removal of exploitation and all vestiges of persecution and backwardness."

YEMEN--YAR

SAN'A' PDRY AGENTS ARRESTED WITH AMMUNITION IN YAR

JN071735Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Jan 79 JN

[Text] We have just received the following: SABA' NEWS AGENCY has learned that our brave armed forces and brave men of our tribes in the northern regions were able to arrest traitor agent Ahmad Salih Abu Salim (?an-Nu'mary) and his gang's agents 'Ali Ahmad (?Sami), 'Ali ash-Sahir (?Bahtush) and 'Ali ibn 'Ali Jamil. A large quantity of explosives, weapons and various kinds of ammunition were found in their possession. They received these weapons together with sums of money from the ruling clique in Aden with the aim of upsetting the security of the citizens and carrying out subversive acts in some utilities in order to hamper the march of development and construction in this part of our country, which is progressing with disregard for what the plotters and their agents are concocting against it.

This victory shows that the masses and the armed forces of our people rally around their prudent national leadership under brother leader Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces. Greetings to the brave men of our armed forces and tribes.

VICE PRESIDENT RECEIVES TRIBAL CHIEFS

JN0713291 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Brother Qadi 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president and speaker of the People's Constituent Assembly, today received a number of shaykhs and chieftains representing the areas of Bani Bahlul, Arhab, Sanham, 'Iyal Sarih, Naham, Bani al-Harith, Hamdan, Bani Matar, Al-Haymatayn, Khawlan, Bilad ar-Ru'us and Bilad al-Bustan.

They expressed their condemnation of the sabotage acts and offered gratitude to their brothers the army and security personnel and to the citizens in the central region who purged their areas of sabotage and saboteurs. The chiefs pledged their firm and full support for the government, army and security forces in preserving the peace, security and stability of the country.

AS-SADAT DISCUSSES POSSIBLE AGREEMENT THIS WELK

NC051330Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1324 GMT 5 Jan 79 NC

["Text" of President Anwar as-Sadat's statements to reporters and news agency correspondents "after Friday prayers today"]

[Text] Question: Mr President, do you have any comments today on the situation as far as the discussions are concerned, and have you received any reports from Washington?

Answer: I have received nothing so far. If anything is received, Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil or Husni Mubarak will let me know. They have told me nothing so far.

Question: Do you believe that the date, place and method for holding the discussions will be announced this week?

Answer: Dr Mustafa Khalil's answer will reach the United States in a day or two. Let us hope that something can be arranged after this.

Question: Are there any problems regarding the resumption of the discussions on the part of the Egyptians or the Americans?

Answer: No, absolutely not. All of us, even the Israelis after the Israeli Cabinet meeting, want the resumption of the negotiations.

Question: There are rumors that the agreement might be concluded in the middle of March. Do you believe that this is some kind of guess?

Answer: There is absolutely nothing of this sort in my mind. The next step will be taken after Dr Mustafa Khalil sends his answer to Cyrus Vance. Let us hope that it will be possible then to reach some sort of an agreement in the middle of next week or approximately on Monday.

Question: Will the Egyptians or the Americans announce something in the middle of next week?

Answer: There will be something which all parties--Egypt, Israel and the United States--can agree upon.

KHALIL HANDS LETTER FOR VANCE TO U.S. ENVOY

NC071436Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1418 GMT 7 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 7 January--MENA has learned that late last night Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil handed Hermann Eilts, the U.S. ambassador in Cairo, a letter for U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

The letter contained Egypt's reply regarding the efforts to resume the talks for achieving a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East.

As for today's meeting between Dr Mustafa Khalil and the U.S. ambassador, MENA has learned that it concerned inquiries from the U.S. side about the Egyptian reply.

AL-AHRAM on Khalil Letter

NC00858Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 8 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 8 January--AL-AHRAM today reports that the letter Egyptian Prime Minister Dr. Mustafa Khalil handed to the U.S. ambassador in Cairo on Egypt's views on the current efforts for a peaceful settlement of the Middle East problem includes, in addition to the affirmation of the basis upon which a comprehensive peace must be founded, Egypt's readiness to accept the procedural formula that the United States will propose for the resumption, time and place of the peace talks, as Egypt appreciates the U.S. role in the crisis as an original and basic partner in the peace efforts.

The paper says that Egypt wants to keep the door open for the United States to choose the method for resuming the negotiations on the basis of its comprehensive evaluation of the situation in the light of the Egyptian and Israeli replies.

The paper adds that the Egyptian reply suggests the next steps that the U.S. secretary of state could propose as an alternative or amendment leading to overcoming the current difficulties.

The paper notes that the Egyptian prime minister has enclosed in his letter to the U.S. secretary of state the Egyptian Government's decisions on the need to link the treaty with the establishment of autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza; the date and method of establishing autonomy; the first phase of the withdrawal from Sinai; Egypt's refusal to grant any preferences or special privileges to Israel; and Egypt's adherence to the principle of reviewing the security measures for Sinai at the request of both sides.

AL-AHRAM says that the Egyptian reply covers 16 pages and is divided into three parts. In the first part, the prime minister affirms Egypt's appreciation of and interest in continued U.S. efforts for peace. The second part includes a complete evaluation of the Egyptian position from the Camp David talks up to the Brussels meetings; an analysis of the events in the area since the Camp David summit and the causes and motives that affirm the need to reach a comprehensive solution to the problem, particularly in relation to the Palestine question; alternative formulas for finding a solution to outstanding problems, in accordance with the Egyptian views and in light of the proposals presented by Cyrus Vance during his recent trip to Egypt and Israel. These formulas affirm the importance of arriving at a comprehensive solution, reviewing the security measures, the priority of Egypt's Arab commitments and the complete linkage of the Egyptian-Israeli agreement with the establishment of autonomous institutions for the Palestinian people.

Enclosed in the letter is the text of the Egyptian Cabinet's decision, which affirms Egypt's position on outstanding issues and its readiness to take part in all current efforts for peace.

AL-AHRAM'S diplomatic editor has learned that in the letter Prime Minister Dr. Mustafa Khalil has sent to U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, Egypt has affirmed the importance of reaching a mutual interpretation by Egypt, Israel and the United States of the various articles of the treaty. This will be contained in letters to be appended to the treaty as a complement to it. It is known that Egypt calls for:

1. An official interpretation of paragraph 4 of Article 4, affirming the need to review the security measures after a specific period instead of the provision merely making this review possible. Egypt has drawn up a specific formula for this required interpretation.

2. An official interpretation agreed upon by the three parties in relation to Paragraph 2 of Article 6 of the draft treaty, affirming Egypt's Arab commitments should Israel carry out an armed military aggression against any member of the Arab collective security pact.

AL-AHRAM notes that Egypt is satisfied with the U.S. interpretation of this article, which provides that in accordance with Article 103 of the UN Charter and in care of any contradiction between the commitments provided for in this treaty and other commitments, the commitments contained in this treaty will be binding.

3. Egypt has presented a formula for the exchange of letters on the establishment of autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza, in which it stipulates that the negotiations will begin 1 month after the Egyptian-Israeli agreement is signed while fixing a date for elections in the West Bank and Gaza.

4. Egypt calls for a clear provision that the establishment of diplomatic relations will be made after the establishment of autonomy in Gaza.

GHALI: ISRAEL WILLING TO EXCHANGE LETTERS ON WEST BANK

NC061341Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 6 January--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stated that Israel has accepted the principle of negotiations and that it is willing to sign and exchange identical letters on the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Sector. He added that the signing and exchange of these letter constitutes another agreement in addition to the peace agreement to be signed between Egypt and Israel.

Dr Ghali announced this at a press conference he held today. The press conference was attended by Arab and foreign correspondents in Cairo.

Dr Ghali pointed out that the idea of the exchange of identical letters represents the Egyptian and U.S. positions. He added that Israel has accepted this idea but has rejected the idea of a timetable for establishing Palestinian authority in the West Bank and the Gaza Sector.

He also said that Israel has agreed to holding negotiations 1 month after the signing, but has refused to have a specific date for elections related to establishing the new Palestinian authority. This, Dr. Ghali said, will be one of the subjects to be discussed during the future negotiations.

Dr. Ghali emphasized that the United States will play an important role for the resumption of the negotiations.

He said he believes Israeli positions can be ironed out.

Dr. Ghali expressed hope that this year will witness the signing of the peace agreement between Egypt and Israel as well as the signing of the identical exchange letters. He said that the three parties--Egypt, Israel and the United States--want the negotiations to resume, which in itself is a positive and extremely important point.

During his world press conference, which was organized by the Egyptian Information Department, Dr. Butrus Ghali said that Egypt will hand its reply, which defines its position concerning the peace negotiations, to the United States this afternoon or tomorrow.

He said that the Egyptian Cabinet's recent statement in this connection stems from the fact that we want to sign two treaties, as at Camp David, where the framework of two agreements was drawn up containing two treaties--the first between Egypt and Israel, under which the Israeli forces would withdraw from Sinai and sign a peace agreement, and the second taking the form of identical letters to be exchanged on the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Sector.

Dr Ghali went on to say: As for the second treaty, we have asked that the exchanged letters should contain a timetable stipulating that negotiations would begin 1 month after the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and that a Palestinian authority would be established after elections. The date for the elections will be set during the negotiations. He added: We have also asked that the Israeli forces withdraw to specific locations after the establishment of Palestinian authority in the West Bank and Gaza.

In answer to a question on Egypt's stand on the revision of the security agreement in Sinai after 5 years and the exchange of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Israel, Dr Ghali said: This will certainly be among the topics that will be discussed in the upcoming negotiations. It is also one of the topics mentioned in the letter Egypt will send today or tomorrow to U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

Dr Ghali noted that the establishment of Palestinian authority is mentioned in the Camp David documents and will be discussed in the negotiations that will start 1 month after the treaty is signed. He said that in the negotiations that will be held, Egypt, the Palestinians who will join the Egyptian delegation, Israel and Jordan--if it so desires--will discuss the nature of Palestinian authority and the various ways to hold elections for establishing this authority. Dr Ghali added that as of this moment we have not yet received Jordan's agreement to participate in these negotiations.

Dr Ghali said that in accordance with the Camp David documents, 3 years after the establishment of Palestinian authority, the next step will be represented in a second stage of talks among the Palestinian authority, Israel and Egypt to define the next stage concerning the future of the West Bank and the Gaza. He explained that there are two stages for the negotiations concerning the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The first stage will begin 1 month after the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. The Palestinian authority will then be established and the Israeli forces will withdraw to specific locations in the West Bank and Gaza. The second stage of negotiations will begin after 3 years among the Palestinian authority, Egypt and Israel to define the final status of the West Bank and the Gaza.

Dr Butrus Ghali said that the first stage will result in the establishment of Palestinian authority. The second stage, in accordance with the spirit of Camp David, will define the relationship between the Palestinian authority in the West Bank and Gaza on one hand and its neighbors on the other.

He added that in accordance with the spirit of the Camp David agreement, a Palestinian entity will be formed; in other words, a Palestinian state. As to the future status of this Palestinian state and whether its relationship will be with Jordan or Israel, this the Palestinians themselves will decide.

Asked about Egyptian and American concepts, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs affirmed that there is nothing in the Camp David documents opposing the emergence of the Palestinian entity, adding that the U.S. stand stems from the Camp David documents.

Dr Butrus Ghali said: I do not believe that the U.S. stand is opposed to the establishment of the Palestinian entity. On numerous occasions, President Carter has announced his viewpoint on the Palestinian homeland.

He added: Within the framework of the spirit of Camp David, there will be a Palestinian entity in the final phase. Therefore, you would not believe that there is a contradiction between our stand on the Palestinian entity and the U.S. stand in this respect. Dr Butrus Ghali noted that the letter Egypt will hand over today or tomorrow to U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance stems from the principles contained in the recent statement issued by the Egyptian Cabinet.

Asked about a reported preparatory meeting at the specialists level to lay the groundwork for another ministerial-level meeting among Egypt, the United States and Israel, Dr Butrus Ghali said this report is unfounded.

Dr Ghali was asked by newsmen about his recent statement that contacts are underway between Egypt and the PLO, and that the head of the PLO Political Department, Faruq Qadammi, has denied this statement. Dr Ghali said: I do not want to embarrass any of my Palestinian friends. However, if you need an affirmation of what I said, I can personally give you the names of the persons and the place where contact was made with them in their capacity as PLO representatives.

[Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic at 1800 GMT on 6 January reports that "The Kuwaiti AS-SIYASAH reports today that Basil 'Aql, the PLO UN representative and political adviser to Yasir 'Arafat, has made a weeklong visit to Cairo. During the visit, 'Aql held talks with a number of Egyptian officials on Egyptian-Palestinian relations and the situation in the Middle East."]

Concerning Arab solidarity and the current differences in the Arab arena, Dr Ghali expressed his total conviction that through Arab solidarity, all differences in the Arab world will be overcome. He said: This will happen sooner or later.

As regards the conference Dr Butrus Ghali will convene on Monday, and in which Egypt's ambassadors accredited to the Arab states will participate, Dr Ghali said the purpose of the conference is to make a comprehensive assessment of the situation in the Arab world. The conference will also seek to consolidate the close ties between Egypt and the other Arab states on not only the political level, but also on the economic, cultural and other levels. He underlined the importance of cooperation in these various domains. Dr Ghali noted that while Egypt has no diplomatic relations with Libya, it still does have thousands of Egyptian technicians working in Libya. The same thing, he said, applies to other parts of the Arab world, including the rejectionist states, such as Syria and Iraq.

Concerning the present situation in Iran, Dr Butrus Ghali said that Egypt is interested in what is going on in Iran and is following the situation there with interest. We also hope that the shah and the new prime minister, Bakhtiar, will achieve a peaceful solution in Iran.

He added that Iran belongs to the Islamic bloc. Furthermore, Iran is in our area and we have good relations with it. Therefore, we are interested in what is happening there.

Concerning the oil issue that Israel is raising at the peace negotiations, Dr Butrus Ghali affirmed that Egypt has not changed its position on this. He said Egypt will not grant Israel any oil privileges.

Furthermore, Egypt's policy states that Egyptian oil is sold in accordance with the world market prices and with the policy Egypt has been pursuing for the past 3 or 4 years.

Answering a question about the recent exchange of letters between President Anwar as-Sadat and King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, Dr Butrus Ghali said: I met the Saudi ambassador in Cairo some time ago and I handed him a letter from President as-Sadat to King Khalid. I also met him again a few days ago, and he handed me King Khalid's reply to President as-Sadat's letter.

Dr Ghali affirmed that the relations between Egypt and Saudi Arabia are extremely good. He said: This is affirmed by the exchange of letters between King Khalid and President as-Sadat.

About whether an Arab summit conference is scheduled, Dr Butrus Ghali said that this topic has not been discussed by the Egyptian and Saudi officials.

Concluding his press conference, Dr Butrus Ghali affirmed that Egypt's Arab obligations take priority over any other obligations and agreements.

The press conference was attended by Safwat ash-Sharif, chief of the Information Authority; Ambassador Ahmad Tawfiq Khalil, Foreign Ministry under secretary; Ambassador Ahmad Mahir, director of the minister's office; Adviser Salah Hindawi, the minister's adviser on press affairs; and a number of Information Authority officials.

At the beginning of the press conference, a spokesman for the Information Authority had announced that the conference would be the first of many to be organized by the authority for senior Egyptian officials. These conferences will be attended by representatives of world press and news agencies in Cairo.

AS-SIYASI: ISRAEL MUST AGREE TO EGYPTIAN VIEWPOINT

NC070908Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0800 GMT 7 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 7 January--The AS-SIYASI says today that Egypt's willingness to resume the negotiations stems from the joint Egyptian-American position, which underlines the need to link Israeli withdrawal from Sinai with the establishment of autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza. This joint position, the paper adds, also maintains that the question of the security arrangements should not be ignored but must be linked to a time limit whereby the articles related to the military situation in the area may be reconsidered after 5 years.

AS-SIYASI quotes a highly placed diplomatic source as saying that the resumption of the negotiations should be for the purpose of discussing the points of difference, not agreement; that in the past negotiations we achieved 95 percent; and that what remains can be settled in 2 days and thus the treaty will be ready for signing. However, the source said, for this to happen Egypt is making it a condition that Israel should adopt a political decision agreeing to the Egyptian viewpoint, which represents a just solution.

The paper says that the Israeli decision must agree to the following points, which are currently in dispute:

1. The Egyptian-Israeli treaty is not a separate settlement but part of the framework of an overall settlement.

2. Recognition of the Palestinian rights and approval of a timetable for establishing self-rule, elections and the termination of military rule in the West Bank and Gaza.

3. The question of security in the area. It [presumably Israel] has agreed to add this to the points to be negotiated.

4. Egypt's commitment to the Pan-Arab treaties concluded before the treaty with Israel.

The source affirmed that it is highly probable that the treaty will be signed during the next phase. He added that the United States will not allow Israel to play with fire as it pleases.

DIPLOMATIC MISSION REPORTEDLY LEAVES CAMBODIA

NC060733Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0705 GMT 6 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 6 January--AKHBAR AL-YAWM, quoting diplomatic sources in Peking, says the Egyptian diplomatic mission in Phnom left Cambodia following the intensification of battles between Vietnamese and Cambodian forces on Cambodian territory. Citing the same sources, the paper adds that the deparaure of the Egyptian diplomats was part of an evacuation of foreign diplomatic missions from Phnom Penh on the advice of the Bambodian Government. The sources did not give the destination of the Egyptian diplomatic mission.

PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED AFTER EGYPTIAN-SPANISH TALKS

NC0722l8Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2030 GMT 7 Jan 79 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 7 January--The Official discussions between Egypt and Spain began at the Foreign Ministry this evening under the chairmanship of Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali and Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja y Aguirre. The ministers held an approximately 30 minute closed meeting at the beginning of the discussions. Members of the Egyptian and Spanish delegations then joined the discussions.

A press statement issued after the 2-hour Egyptian-Spanish discussions says that both sides dealt with several topics, the most important of which was bilateral relations within the framework of the strong ties of history and friendship and the common cultural heritage linking Egypt, its people and government, with Spain. Both sides expressed satisfaction with the growing friendly bilateral relations. They also asserted their determination to develop and bolster these relations in all political, economic and cultural fields.

The statement points out that the Egyptian minister briefed the Spanish foreign minister on the latest developments in the peace negotiations and Egypt's sincere efforts to establish a comprehensive, just and durable peace in the Middle East that would realize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in accordance with a set timetable and would later enable the realization of the desired stability in the area and provide its peoples with all suitable conditions for their development and progress.

The Spanish foreign minister expressed his country's support for all efforts aimed at achieving a comprehensive and just settlement in the Middle East.

The press statement further explains that the Egypt-Spanish discussions also dealt with the situation in the Mediterranean and the link between the security and future of this historic, sensitive area with the establishment of peace and stability in the Middle East. Both sides also discussed conditions in the African Continent and expressed their support for the legitimate struggle of the people in southern Africa to get rid of the last vestiges of foreign and imperialist domination. In this respect, both sides affirmed their adherence to the principles of sovereignty, national integrity of all countries and noninterference in the domestic affairs of any country.

The statement says that both ministers discussed international issues, particularly problems of common interest. They reviewed the efforts to establish a new international economic system, the current efforts to narrow the gap between the advanced states and the less developed states, and the role that Egypt and Spain could perform to achieve better understanding between these groups of states.

Both ministers further reviewed the main issues of mutual concern within the UN framework. They expressed their absolute support for the efforts to safeguard the rights of man, prevent the violation of his basic freedoms, do away with all forms of racial discrimination and insure cooperation among all peoples and countries to achieve prosperity for all.

Marcelino Oreja y Aguirre said after his discussions with Dr Butrus Ghali that Spain would not establish normal relations with Israel if a comprehensive and just peace were not established in the Middle East. He said that Spain's position is clear and calls for total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and for the restoration of the rights of the Palestinian people.

The minister added that his country is following with interest the developments of the Middle East crisis, particularly after President Anwar as-Sadat's historic visit to Jerusalem.

The Spanish foreign minister expressed hope that the disagreements would be overcome and a comprehensive solution, which would lead to stability in the Middle East would be achieved.

Marcelino Oreja y Aguirre said that his discussions with Dr Ghali were important and useful adding that they discussed the Middle East crisis and bilateral relations in addition to international issues of common interest.

In his statement, the Spanish foreign minister praised Egyptian-Spanish relations, saying: We are trying to strengthen our relations in all fields, particularly in the cultural field.

Oreja said that the invitation King Juan Carlos addressed to President as-Sadat to visit Spain still stands. He pointed out that Spain wants to strengthen its relations with the Arab states and said: We also seek to establish stronger relations with the African states.

Regarding the situation in Spain, Oreja said that his country wants to bolster democracy and that there will be a call for holding general elections.

The Spanish foreign minister will leave Cairo for Khartoum tomorrow. He will then go to Addis Ababa and later to Nairobi. He will leave Nairobi for home on Friday.

U. S. CONGRESSMAN DISCUSSES MEETING WITH AS-SADAT

NC070934Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0825 GMT 7 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 7 January--Congressman Donald Mitchell of New York has stated that President Anwar as-Sadat told the members of the delegation of the House Armed Services Committee during their meeting yesterday that despite the existing obstacles he still thinks that peace would become a reality, and is basing his policy on this.

In a statement published by AL-AHRAM today, Mitchell said that the participants in the meeting discussed the F-5 deal, which the United States was scheduled to deliver to Egypt last November. He said this will be the subject of contacts among Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United States.

President as-Sadat also asked the committee members to urge their government to take two positions:

1. Not to stop or impose restrictions on military aid to friendly countries.

. . Not to limit or restrict financial aid and technological assistance to these states, because such aid will strengthen those states in the area that maintains good relations with the United States.

The president warned against the dangers of foreign intervention to which Egypt, the Middle East, and Africa are exposed.

Also discussed during the meeting was the U. S. role in solving the Middle East problem. The president again thanked President Carter and the American people, particularly for the efforts President Carter exerted to bring about the success of the Camp David conference.

President as-Sadat also spoke about the objective conditions that exist in Egypt for economic cooperation and joint ventures between Egypt and the United States. He referred to Egypt's need for U. S. technology. He said that Egypt has the suitable atmosphere, experience, manpower and the ability to produce, consume and export the surplus to the countries of the area.

CAIRO PAPERS ON EGYPTIAN-PALESTINIAN CONTACTS

NC080740Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 8 Jan 79 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Historic Opportunity for the Palestinian People," AL-JUMHURIYAH refers to Dr Butrus Ghali's confirmation once again that contacts and meetings have taken place between Egypt and PLO representatives. The paper says that the PLO leaders are undoubtedly eager to continue these contacts with Egypt because they deeply realize that only Egypt can lead a successful Arab war or a just Arab peace, and that the Egyptian leadership is the prime defender and supporter of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

AL-JUMHURIYAH adds: We know why some Palestinian leaders are denying the Egyptian-Palestinian contacts, because we are well aware of the magnitude of the pressure on these leaders by certain Arab regimes.

The paper emphasizes that the interests of the Palestinian people cannot possibly be detached from the efforts Egypt is making to promote self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza as a step toward establishing a Palestinian state. In conclusion, the paper says that the Palestinian people comprehend these facts well and hope that this historic opportunity will not be lost. It remains for the Palestinian leaders to rise to the level of their people.

Commenting on the HERALD TRIBUNE's disclosure yesterday that Soviet authorities permitted the emigration of over 31,000 jews from the Soviet Union last year, AL-AHRAM stresses that this is really not a new discovery nor a revelation of a secret that Moscow tried to hide. What really calls for amazement and dismay is the fact that the Soviet authorities willfully, and, it is no exaggeration to say, intentionally announced the number of Soviet emigrants. No sooner had last year ended amidst astonishment at Soviet policies than Moscow, in an unusual manner, handed out statistics and revealed the large figures about Soviet emigrants.

AL-AHRAM adds: Some may wonder about the purpose of this disclosure just a few days after the end of the year. Quite simply, the matter, far from being a riddle, is in fact almost obvious: Perhaps we do not go too far or exceed the limits of logic when we say that it is nothing more than an implicit, or in fact explicit, message from Moscow saying, we have done our part, so what do we get in return?

To back up its argument, the paper says that whenever the SALT talks with the United States get complicated Moscow takes up the card of Soviet Jews and relaxes the emigration a little so that the talks may relax a lot. The question of Soviet Jews will not be the only factor contributing to the signing of the SALT agreement. There is also the question of getting U.S. trade facilities.

In conclusion, the paper says: Despite the grave harm done to the Palestine cause as a result of the emigration of Soviet Jews, the Soviet Union is still the most favored state and interests take precedence over declared principles.

SALIM SAYS AFRICAN STATES SUPPORT ARAB POSITION

NC060825Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0725 GMT 6 Jan 79 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 6 January--Presidential Assistant Mamduh Salim has stated that the heads of the West African states have affirmed their support for the efforts of Egypt and of President Anwar as-Sadat to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East and have unanimously rejected the attacks on the Egyptian efforts in this respect.

In an interview published by AL-AHRAM today, the presidential assistant pointed out that his talks with the leaders of Nigeria, Liberia, Togo, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal achieved important results, which are summed up as follows:

1. All the leaders stand on the side of peace and believe that Israel must ultimately respond to the pressures of the international community.

2. Africa continues to support Arab rights and adheres to its effective stand on isolating Israel and blocking its political and economic activity in the African states.

TARIQ 'AZIZ MEETS WITH PALESTINIAN DELEGATION

JN062056Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1950 GMT 6 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 6 January--Tariq 'Aziz, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and Revolution Command Council member, met here this evening with the delegation of the Arab Front for the Liberation of Palestine led by Abu al-'Abbas, assistant secretary general of the front.

During the meeting, the two parties discussed the strong struggle relations between the Ba'th Party and the Arab Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the current Arab situation, and the means to strengthen the requirements for struggle against the imperialist-Zionist schemes and the capitulationist policies.

The meeting was attended on the Iraqi side by Abu Shihab and Abu Waddah, members of the Palestine and Armed Struggle Office of the Ba'th Party National Command; on the Palestinian side it was attended by Abu at-Tayyib, official in charge of information at the Arab Front for the Liberation of Palestine; Musa (al-Ghazi), front central council member; and Abu al-'Ala', official in charge of the front in Iraq.

PFLP'S DR GEORGE HABASH ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN071951Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1935 GMT 7 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 7 January--Dr George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], this evening arrived in Baghdad at head of a delegation on a visit to Iraq that will last for several days.

In a statement upon arrival Dr Habash said that he will hold talks with officials of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party in accordance with the common struggle relations tying the two sides. He added that he will review political issues currently facing the Arab progressive forces. These issues call for the mobilization and unity of all efforts, and for national, progressive and revolutionary forces in the Arab homeland to abort the treacherous plot of Camp David.

Dr Habash stressed that the initiative of the Iraqi Army to reestablish a struggling northern front, as well as the glorious proclamation of the Joint National Action Charter between Syria and Iraq, focuses the attention and support of all revolutionary and progressive forces in the Arab homeland, particularly since the Iraqi-Syrian national charter forms the base for all Arab revolutionaries. He emphasized that this initiative will also help in escalating the efficiency of the Palestinian revolution on the political and military levels. He further explained that the Iraqi initiative is a good framework through which the Arab progressive forces can confront and abort all imperialist, Zionist and reactionary plots.

Dr Habash was received by Sa'dun Shakir, member of the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and member of the Revolution Command Council.

SAUDI GENERAL ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD FOR 2-DAY VISIT

LD051906Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 5 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jan, SNA--Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd ar-Rahman Al ash-Shaykh, commander of the land forces, arrived in Baghdad this evening from Riyadh at the head of a military delegation for a 2-day visit to Iraq. Lt Gen Muhammad Al ash-Shaykh's visit to Iraq comes at the invitation of the Iraqi Government.

UAE DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN052041Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0235 GMT 5 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 5 January--Lt Col Muhammad 'Ubayd Al Maktum, UAE deputy defense minister, arrived in Baghdad this evening at the head of a delegation to attend the anniversary celebrations of the Iraqi Army.

In a statement on arrival, Lt Col Muhammad Al Maktum wished the Iraqi Army progress and prosperity.

DEFENSE MINISTER HIGHLIGHTS ROLE OF ARMED FORCES

JN080935Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0825 GMT 8 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 8 January--Defense Minister 'Adnan Khayrallah has stressed that the Iraqi armed forces' tasks are to restore the moral and material balance in the Arab nation's struggle against its enemies.

In a statement published here today, the defense minister said that the armed forces role is not only confined to thwarting Camp David but also to achieving the Arab nation's aspirations, safeguarding its dignity and sovereignty, guaranteeing its rights and providing it with the appropriate circumstances to enable it to build its humanitarian experiment.

The defense minister asserted that Iraq has made long strides along the road of building the army on revolutionary bases. He also asserted that the army's combat capability is continuously developing and that new formulas of new humanitarian relations are now being applied to the military institutions.

In his press statements, the defense minister alluded to the armed forces' contributions to the processes of building and construction. The armed forces have, for example, constructed some 26,000 housing units in the autonomous area in northern Iraq. This is in addition to the effective contribution to the comprehensive campaign for the eradication of illiteracy. He added that the armed forces are a natural part of society. They interact with society.

In conclusion, the defense minister pointed out the radical changes in the Iraqi woman's status. Naturally these changes have had their effect on the armed forces. Women have been enrolled in the armed forces. He added: We are anxious to make this experiment a success so it might become more than a mere symbolic practice.

SYRIAN CHIEF OF STAFF LEAVES BAGHDAD FOR HOME

JN071341Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 7 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 7 January--Syrian Chief of Staff Major General Hikmat ash-Shihabi and the accompanying delegation left Baghdad today after attending Iraq's celebrations of the 58th anniversary of Iraqi Army Day.

In a statement to INA Major General ash-Shihabi expressed his pleasure at having the opportunity to share the celebration with men of the Iraqi Army on the 58th anniversary of army day. He commented on the well-run military parade of the Iraqi Army--this army that forms an integral part of the Arab forces.

He expressed hope that this army would be mobilized together with the rest of the Arab armed forces to liberate the usurped Arab lands and to bring about the aspirations of our nation. He added that we are confident that we will triumph and hope that Syria and Iraq will soon commemorate the day of a united army.

AL-BAKR GRANTS INTERVIEW TO MOSCOW PAPER

JN051307Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Moscow, 5 January--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr has stressed that the Arab-Zionist conflict is one between forces of oppression, Zionism, and oppressed forces represented by the Palestinian Arab people, who were expelled from their land as a result of four successive wars launched by Zionism against the Arab nation.

In an exclusive interview with the newspaper (?Moscow NEWS) on the occasion of the new year and published here today, President al-Bakr said that the logic of our present age imposes on the Arabs the duty to regain their rights by force. "We seek peace, not war. We did not impose war; it was imposed on us and became our destiny. We shall be up to it."

President al-Bakr affirmed that the Arabs are seekers of peace and justice and bear a noble and humane message to the world. He added that by opposing oppression and championing rights one will be rendering services to humanity. The more support the peoples of the world provide to the just Arab cause, the more they will be championing humanity and real peace in the world because there can be no peace with continued oppression and aggression. President al-Bakr expressed the hope that the peoples of the world will understand these facts.

President al-Bakr said that the Arab revolutionary forces last year foiled an attempt by racist imperialism and Zionism to achieve a new act in a big conspiracy aimed at the life of the Arab nation and threatening Arab sovereignty over Arab land.

President al-Bakr described the joint national action between Iraq and Syria and the resolutions adopted by the summit conference in Baghdad as a strong blow which has confused enemy calculations and voided their analyses.

President al-Bakr expressed the hope that the relations of friendship between Iraq and the Soviet Union will be strengthened, as will the struggle cohesion between the Arab nation and the socialist and Third World countries against world imperialism, Zionism and racism.

President al-Bakr greeted the peoples of the world, stressing the necessity for continued struggle until real peace is achieved and real human principles triumph.

BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL OFFICE REVISES BLACKLIST

JN040933Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0924 GMT 4 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 4 January--The executive bureau of the affairs of the Arab Boycott of the Zionist entity announced here today the lifting of 115 foreign companies and 4 ships from the blacklist after their abiding by the terms of the Arab boycott last December.

An authoritiative source at the bureau said that the companies and ships lifted from the blacklist belong to French, Indian, Canadian, British, Brazilian, America, Turkish, Norwegian, Finnish, Danish, West German, Swiss, Austrian, Philippine, and Hong Kong nationalities.

AR-RA'Y: U.S. CENTER MUST GET APPROVAL FOR ACTIVITIES

JN0806411 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 6 Jan 79 p 1 JN

[Text] Amman--AR-RA'Y has learned that Minister of Culture and Youth Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf has issued instructions to the effect that the American Cultural Center can neither conduct lectures nor hold seminars without prior approval from the department of culture and arts. This also applies to the center's cultural activities.

The minister's decision came in the wake of a seminar the cultural center recently held.

GOVERNOR OF JORDANIAN CENTRAL BANK RETURNS FROM KUWAIT

JN0611001 Amman JNA in Arabic 0920 GMT 6 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 6 Jan--Central Bank Governor Dr Muhammad Sa'id an-Nabulsi returned to Amman from Kuwait yesterday evening after representing Jordan in the meeting of the eight-state committee of the Arab Central Bank governors held in Kuwait last Monday.

Dr 'Adnan al-Hindi, head of the research department at the Jordanian Central Bank and member of the delegation, stated that during the meeting, the conferees discussed the conditions of the Arab financial and monetary markets and ways to develop them in order to guarantee further flow of Arab capital and its effective participation in Arab economic development and Arab economic integration.

Dr al-Hindi added: Agreement was reached to form a specialized working committee to undertake an analytical study of the conditions of the Arab financial and monetary markets and ways to develop them on the basis of the framework of the study which has been approved. Agreements were also reached to invite the working committee to meet in Amman to determine the method of its activities and the timetable for conducting a field study in preparation for submitting the study to the board of governors in its next meeting.

Agreement was also reached to hold the next meeting of the Arab Central Bank governors on 16 February 1979 in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

KING HUSAYN RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM YAR PRESIDENT

JN0616021 Amman JNA in Arabic 1530 GMT 6 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 6 Jan--His Majesty King Husayn received today a message from YAR President Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih dealing with the latest developments in the area and the means to strengthen the Arab position and bolster bilateral relations.

The message was delivered to his majesty by Yahya (Jaghman), personal envoy of the YAR president.

ADDITIONAL MONEY CONTRIBUTED TO JORDANIAN POTASH COMPANY

JN0708301 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 7 Jan 79 p 2 JN

[Text] Amman--AR-RA'Y--The Jordanian Government has received a memo to the effect that the Iraqi Revolution Command Council has approved an additional contribution of $10 million to the capital of the Jordanian potash company. Iraq's original contribution to the company's capital amounted to 250,000 Jordanian dinars.

PRESIDENT SARKIS ADDRESSES DIPLOMATS ON NEW YEAR

NC061400Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Jan 79 NC

[Speech by Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis on 6 January to heads of diplomatic missions accredited to Lebanon and directors of international organizations operating in Lebanon, on occasion of New Year--recorded]

[Excerpts] Your Excellencies: There are conditions without which a stable and lasting peace cannot be achieved. The first of these conditions is justice and equality. Meanwhile, peace and justice are indivisible. When we tackle any one of the issues of peace, it is imperative for us to deal with all aspects of this issue. This is because any negligence will ultimately abort the peace plan. Then, replacing righteousness by force will be futile, particularly when the matter is one of rights that have been proclaimed as the fruit of a protracted and bitter struggle against an oppressive power. An example of such rights is the people's right to self-determination. Furthermore, failing to face facts is also futile, because confrontation cannot be offset by evasiveness.

Therefore, when the Arab east faces issues related to its destiny, the least that the parties concerned can demand is their right to self-determination. Consequently, it is an obvious result of this right that we should be able to reject the surprising doctrine with which we are faced from time to time. These doctrines detract from sovereignty and dignity and harm the essence of the basic principles governing the existence of the international community. An example of these doctrines is the so-called resettlement of the Palestinians in Lebanon. Lebanon has not approved this resettlement, and it will never approve it. The Palestinians also have not approved this resettlement, and they cannot do so.

What attracts attention is that all the settlements projected in several respects share one common factor: the resettlement of the Palestinians in their places of residence, whether this is called resettlement or something else for the purpose of misleading.

The causes of the states and peoples cannot be tackled outside their natural framework. Therefore, it is impossible for any other alternative and fabricated framework to constitute an acceptable solution. It is not through the fabrication of a Lebanese issue that the Palestine problem can be settled. Nor is the destitution of a peaceful people the way to resolve the problem of a homeless people. Furthermore, fanning the flames of war in one place does not enable peace to be achieved in another.

One aspect of the Palestine problem is that it is a problem of conscience, which burdens and revolts the world's conscience. It is not wise to burden the world with new sins for which atonement is afterward imposed, perhaps by committing other sins. Peace is absolute. The same applies to justice. There can be no peace that is not just and comprehensive.

Various kinds of aggression are repeatedly being perpetrated overtly or covertly against southern Lebanon; the state's sovereignty continues to be violated; and the UN forces--which came to halt excesses--are exposed to acts of aggression and provocative methods. Therefore, respect of the law and the prestige of the international organizations make it imperative to strengthen these forces and use effective means that will enable them to impose their prestige and fulfill their mission. This is particularly true when we see these forces performing their role within their limits, despite obstacles and difficulties. The command, officers and men of these forces deserve gratitude and praise.

Even before having completely built our national army, we sent a unit to cooperate with the UN forces so that our efforts could be linked with those who have hastened from the far ends of the earth to come to our aid. The Lebanese Army unit has stopped its pursuit of the course charted for it to avert shocks which might rock the whole area. These honorable international stands are the best fulfillment of the spirit of the UN Charter. Furthermore, these stands are a proclamation of faith in the UN principles. I take pleasure at this point in expressing appreciation of the UN secretary general for the basic role he played in preparing for these stands.

The time has come for our democratic and national institutions to recover their health, strength and full role in serving their sublime principles. This is because these institutions are the framework that guarantees the citizens' basic rights, particularly freedom and dignity. Indeed, it is high time for us to rebuild the Lebanon we want on the basis of frankness, equality, brotherhood, tolerance and openness. This basis is inherent in the heart of all the Lebanese people.

We are confident that the assistance being extended by our Arab brothers at this phase, particularly by sisterly Syria, constitutes a basic factor that will enable us to fulfill our objectives. What these brothers have offered us on several occasions encourages us to look toward the future with confidence. The resolutions and recommendations approved at the summit conferences held in Riyadh and Cairo, at the Bayt ad-Din meeting and consequently at the Baghdad summit conference merely confirm that we look toward the future with confidence. We have issued the necessary instructions to the Arab and Lebanese forces to implement these resolutions and recommendations. We hope to be able to enter into the phase of actual implementation in the near future. On this occasion, it is imperative for me to proclaim that the Lebanese State is most seriously seeking to surmount the great difficulties that are barring implementation of these resolutions. The Lebanese State will overcome these difficulties in the interest of Lebanon and its people.

Your Excellencies, Lebanon is dressing its material and moral wounds. Lebanon is also preparing to unleash its comprehensive march toward development. To this end, Lebanon is pooling all the resources at its disposal. Lebanon also depends on the diligence of its sons--a diligence you have praised, Your Excellency, Mr Doyen. Meanwhile, Lebanon looks to the sisterly and friendly states to ask them to extend more support and backing. This is because the crisis which Lebanon is tackling extends beyond its borders.

It is indeed true that had it not been for some weak points in the Lebanese edifice, this edifice would not have been such easy prey for the germs of evil. We assume responsibility for this aspect of the crisis and we are tackling it. One of the means we are using in dealing with this state of affairs is national detente, to which we give priority over all other matters of concern.

However, there can be no doubt that inter-Arab and international strife has had a violent repercussion and effect on the Lebanese arena. We have the right to ask for help in dealing with this aspect of our crisis in particular. We hope that the aid we hope for will be commensurate with the losses we have sustained, with our obvious and pressing needs, and with the magnitude of the dangers threatening us and the rest of the area. We also hope that our potential helpers will not delay in extending their hand to us. This is because each day we increasingly wonder how long our country will be able to withstand blows. This is also particularly true because every day brings to us numerous shocks and surprises in connection with the Middle East and its issues.

Your Excellencies, in the name of cultural cooperation, which is the basic safeguard for warding off injustice and preserving and upholding man's dignity everywhere; in the name of righteousness, which is over everything else and without which no entity can be established and no peace can last; and in the name of the spiritual values, sublime ideals and the basic principles in which Lebanon believes; I announce that Lebanon is determined to turn this new year into a year of hope and peace and one of detente and rebirth. In making this proclamation, Lebanon depends on its belief in Almighty God, on its self-confidence, and on the goodwill and sincere love of its brothers and friends. We have a rendezvous with you for a better future for ourselves, yourselves and for all mankind.

Press Comment on Address

JN071100Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 7 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpts] Beirut, 7 January--Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis' New Year address to diplomats yesterday was met with obvious reservation in today's Lebanese papers. The initial reaction from political circles was also equally reserved. The Lebanese Nationalist Movement considered the address a clear admission by the government of its inability and disinterest in facing the Zionist entity and plans of right. AL-WATAN, organ of the movement, said that the address contained nothing new and that what the president was trying to do was to stop the deteriorating situation at the point it has reached, leaving developments to push matters further and further backward.

The paper criticized the lack of reference in the address to the quick successive developments in southern Lebanon and the dangers threatening that part of Lebanon. It also criticized the way the security question is being tackled and the absence of any reference to the rightist militias' role in obstructing security measures. AL-WATAN considered the president's stress on the dangers of resettlement as false.

Concluding, the paper said that the importance of the address is that it has revealed what the president does not want to do, which is to solve the security problem by using the Arab Deterrent Forces and to solve the situation in southern Lebanon politically by adopting a clear attitude toward the Zionist occupation and its agents.

AN-NIDA', organ of the Lebanese Communist Party, strongly criticized the president for not saying a single word against the Zionist enemy and its role in southern Lebanon. The paper also criticized the president for speaking about resettlement without referring to the quarters behind the resettlement conspiracy. The paper also criticized the open cooperation between official circles and those collaborating with the enemy.

AS-SAFIR placed question marks on several points raised in President Sarkis' address. The paper said that the talk about resettlement reflects the attitude of the Lebanese Front and completely ignored other attitudes Lebanon has adopted within the pan-Arab logic to face the settlement conspiracy. AS-SAFIR particularly referred to Sarkis' call for turning the UN Emergency Force into a deterrent force, saying the president knows only too well that this is impossible.

VOL: SYRIANS OPEN FIRE ON EASTERN BEIRUT

NC071543Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 7 Jan 79 NC

[Text] At 1500 today the Syrian forces suddenly opened light and medium machinegun fire and fired RPG rockets on Hursh al-Kufuri, Badaru and at-Tayyunah.

Rockets and heavy shooting continue to be directed heavily at the area, forcing citizens not to use the roads in this area.

At 1530 the Syrian forces in Hursh Thabit suddenly opened DSHK machinegun fire and fired RPG rockets on the areas of 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, Furn ash-Shubbak, Ash-Shiyah, Ad-Dikwanah, Chevrolet, At-Tayyunah, Galerie Sim'an, Mazda, the flour mills, Badaru Street, Hursh al-Kufuri and the museum. Two citizens were wounded and three houses were burned.

The Syrian forces are continuing to open heavy machinegun fire, causing anxiety among the citizens after these areas had witnessed relative calm during last week.

Meanwhile, the Greek Orthodox Hospital has urgently appealed to the citizens to donate blood, category O Positive, for an emergency case.

ADF Communique

NC071821Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 7 Jan 79 NC

[17 January communique issued by the Arab Deterrent Forces--ADF Command]

[Text] At 1500 today snipers in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah opened sudden and premeditated fire on the ADF's positions in At-Tayyunah, Mar Mikhayil, Ash-Shiyah and Galerie Sim'an. This compelled the deterrent forces to answer the fire with light weapons. The clash developed further when the gunmen in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah and Furn ash-Shubbak used heavy weapons. This compelled the deterrent forces to answer the gunmen properly to silence their sources of fire. This was accomplished at 1630.

It has transpired that the reason for this sudden and unjustified escalation of the security situation in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah is that some militia organizations refuse to implement the decision to open schools tomorrow for personal reasons and local considerations. They thus resorted to sniper operations against the deterrent forces to cause a skirmish that would lead to the cancellation of this decision.

Lebanese Forces Command Statement

NC072056Y Voice of Lebanon [clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 2015 GMT 7 Jan 79 NC

[7 January statement by the official spokesman of the Lebanese Forces Command responding to 7 January Arab Deterrent Forces--ADF--communique--read by announcer]

[Text] The reason for the sudden deterioration of the security situation in the southern suburb this afternoon is the fact that the Syrian forces violated the cease-fire decision. These forces opened fire on the positions of the Lebanese forces, which have fully abided by the cease-fire orders their command issued on 6 October 1978 in implementation of the Security Council's resolution of [date indistinct].

The Lebanese Forces Command draws the attention of public opinion to the fact that this premeditated deterioration is aimed at obstructing social, economic and educational measures the Lebanese Forces Command adopted on Saturday , 30 December 1978. These measures aim at restoring normal life to the southern suburb area extending from At-Tayyunah to At-Tahwitah. The implementation of these measures had actually begun. The school administration in this area had already invited the students to enroll. Businessmen had prepared [words indistinct] shops and banks to carry out their normal activities again.

On this occasion, the Lebanese Forces Command wants to reaffirm that it will abide by the cease-fire decision and will foil all attempts to exacerbate the situation and that the southern suburb will regain strength within the framework of the policy (?of self-restraint).

VOL: LEBANESE ARMY UNITS TO GO TO SOUTH

NC051248Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 5 Jan 79 NC

[Text] It was reported at noon today that the intention of the Lebanese authorities' to send Lebanese Army units to the south was confirmed today through an official decision. The Lebanese Army units will participate with the UN forces in consolidating stability and controlling the situation in the area. A Lebanese Army unit will take up position alongside each UN contingent. According to informed sources, the Lebanese Army units will take the coastal road on their way to the south--namely the Ad-Damur-Sidon-Tyre road. It was mentioned in this respect that there was coordination with the various parties before this decision was adopted. This subject was also discussed by the relevant fronts a few days ago.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS INTER-PALESTINIAN CLASHES

NC060658Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 6 Jan 79 NC

[Excerpts] Last night's light intermittent shooting in some sectors of the southern suburb intensified this morning, prompting people to be cautious, especially on exposed roads facing a number of positions and barricades. An unknown number of people were killed or wounded in an armed clash yesterday afternoon between Fatah members and members of the rejection front in Nahr al-Barid Camp. It was reported last night that the Palestinian clashes were still continuing in Al-Baddawi and Al-Barid. One person was killed and three wounded in similar clashes in the old city of Sidon. These clashes only stopped after intervention by the Palestinian commands. Meanwhile, it has been reported from the south that the area of Hasbayya came under artillery fire and that as a result town chief Shaykh Salman Wahab was killed and a number of other people were wounded. Some buildings were damaged.

[Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon at 1515 GMT on 6 Jan adds that "The PLO has sent a delegation of the armed struggle to the Al-Biddawi-Nahr al-Barid area today to investigate the causes of the armed clashes that broke out between Palestinian elements in the localities of Al-Barid and Al-Biddawi. These clashes went on all night last night. Meanwhile, the number of casualties suffered by the combatants remains unknown."]

VOP Notes Clashes

JN071903Y Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 7 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Beirut--The Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DPFLP] has announced that an armed clash took place the day before yesterday between DPFLP fighters and groups belonging to the Palestinian rightwing command in Nahr al-Barid Camp in northern Lebanon. The DPFLP said that the clash took place when these groups carried out provocative acts against several DPFLP fighters who were inscribing slogans denouncing the results of the dialog that took place between the Jordanian regime and the PLO command. The DPFLP said that the clash led to the fall of several martyrs and several others were wounded. The DPFLP affirmed that the situation in the camp remains tense. Other groups have clashed with the fighters of the Popular Struggle Front for the Liberation of Palestine in Ad-Damur Town south of the Lebanese capital of Beirut.

FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM RETURNS HOME FROM BAGHDAD

JN051336Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpts] Damascus--The Syrian delegation to the meetings of the Political, Cultural and Information Committee between the fraternal countries of Syria and Iraq led by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, returned to Damascus this morning.

MINISTER COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH IRAQ, LEBANON, USSR

JN071315Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 7 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad has described the rumors being circulated by certain hostile radio stations about the situation in Syria as part of the nervous reaction of imperialist and Zionist circles to the unionist action being cemented day after day between fraternal countries Syria and Iraq. At a meeting this morning with a number of Arab and world news agency correspondents, the information minister explained the dimensions of these rumors by saying: Those who are circulating them are wagering on their illusions and expressing wishful thinking, not facts. Syria's steadfastness, the solidity of its principled stands and the firmness of its national unity have enabled it to wrest the initiative in the Arab position and attract the support of Arab public opinion, thus becoming an effective force influencing events in the interest of the Arab nation and Arab rights.

The minister added that the mutual confidence between the people and their leadership in Syria has been established through 8 years of experience. It is a confidence that has enabled Syria to confront the parties to the Camp David conspiracy.

The information minister stressed that the recent campaign of rumors in which a number of world radios have involved themselves shows the solidity of the Syrian stand and how disturbed the hostile forces are by this stand.

Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad added: This solidity expresses itself in various forms. Syria's firm and principled policy and pan-Arab stands respond to the aspirations of our masses. This policy is formulated in accordance with the requirements of pan-Arab interests and the exigencies of national security. Syria clearly knows what it wants. Therefore, its steps are not affected by rumors and its principles are not influenced by pressure.

The information minister emphasized that our people are mature enough to foil all conspiracies against the Arab national existence whenever necessary. By rallying around their leadership and by placing absolute confidence in this leadership, the Syrian people are expressing their awareness of the gravity of the current situation in the Arab world. They are also affirming their resolve to proceed on the path of steadfastness and confrontation.

Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad added: Those outside Syria who feed on the illusions they issue are bound to be the first victims of such illusions.

Replying to a question, the information minister said: Those who deal with the Zionist enemy in Lebanon and feed the campaign of rumors and slanders against Arab Syria and its national solidity are no more than a small tool that Zionism is using in its aggression against the Arab nation. These small people, who are blinded by hatred and have stooped low to commit treason by dealing with Israel, are bound to be the first victims of racist Zionism.

Asked about the extent of unity action between Syria and Iraq on the military and party levels, Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad said: We and our Iraqi brothers are proceeding on the path of complete unity. Our sublime objective is the unity of both countries, because national unity lies in our unity. Furthermore, the practical dimensions of the theory of Arab national security must be viewed through the unity of Syria and Iraq under the present circumstances.

The minister of information added: The unity of Syria and Iraq is for the people in both countries as well as for the Arab people in every country. We are very satisfied with the seriousness and speed with which our steps are being carried out. What has been achieved since signing the Joint National Action Charter greatly exceeds what was expected before signing it.

Replying to a question, Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad said that the joint committees of both countries are completing their meetings and that during the next two weeks all the meetings of the committees defined by the charter will be completed. Afterward, the heads of these committees will meet in Damascus to submit their final report on what has been achieved and what requires a decision from the Higher Political Committee as a prelude to this committee's meeting in Damascus in the last third of this month--surely before 26 January.

Replying to a question on the unification of the military leadership between Syria and Iraq, the information minister said: It has been cited in the charter that the task of the Joint Military Committee is to draw up the charter for both countries' military unity. As long as we are marching along the road of comprehensive unity, it is logical and natural to have one army for both countries.

The information minister further said: As regards our work on the party level, our aim is also the unity of the party. This will take place in due time when the steps regarding this matter are mature. Taking into consideration our experience in joint action as well as the seriousness and speed with which our steps are being integrated, I think that the unity of the party will not take long to achieve.

Answering a question on differences between Syria and the Soviet Union, the Syrian information minister said: There is a military delegation in Moscow now, headed by the defense minister. This delegation's arrival in Moscow means that the consultations have not been suspended between us and our Soviet friends. It also indicates that any difference in viewpoints between friends can be ironed out.

In reply to a last question on the most important events of 1978 on the Arab level, the information minister said: The most prominent event of 1978 on the Arab level was the beginning of unionist action between Syria and Iraq and the signing of the Joint National Action Charter on 26 October. Also most prominent was the unity of the Arab world at the Baghdad summit and the firm Arab stand against the plot of the parties to Camp David. The Arabs have decisively distinguished between the concept of the just and lasting peace in which the Arab nation believes and the capitulatory line represented by the Egyptian regime. The Joint National Action Charter has constituted the right beginning to achieve the theory of Arab security and shown the way to the future. It was also the impact of the Arab will against all forms of pressures, oppression and difficulties in the Arab life. The solidarity of the Arabs and the unity of their word at the Baghdad summit were decisive evidence of the treason of the capitulatory line as represented by the Egyptian regime. It was also an expression of the Arab will to stick to its rights and to be ready to struggle for these rights--something that is most important. The information minister concluded his statement by saying: The National Action Charter and Baghdad summit conference constituted the two most important events for the Arab homeland. The effects of these events are far-reaching and have their clear, positive reflections on the national Arab action of this year. They are also the events that have had international reflections that have perplexed the forces hostile to the Arab nation and forced them to reconsider their transitional policy against the Arab nation.

KHADDAM RECEIVES PNC CHAIRMAN, PLO'S QADDUMI

JN071415Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1355 GMT 7 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Damascus, 7 January--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, received this morning Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council [PNC]. During the meeting, both sides reviewed the situation on the Palestinian arena, particularly the topic of preparing for a PNC meeting in Damascus on 15 January.

[Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World at 0500 GMT on 8 January reports that "Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, met with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, in Damascus yesterday. The meeting was attended by brothers Abu Mazin and Abu Mahir, members of the Fatah Central Committee, and the Fatah representative in Damascus. In a statement after the meeting, Abu al-Lutf said that they discussed the latest developments in the Middle East situation and the results of the visit by brothers Abu al-Lutf and Khaddam to Baghdad as well as Abu al-Lutf's visit to Kuwait."]

COORDINATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH IRAQI LABOR MINISTER

JN071427Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpt] Damascus, 7 January--Delegations of the Syrian and Iraqi labor and social affairs ministries concluded their meetings in Damascus today and agreed on drawing up a draft law for unified work and a draft law for social security in the fraternal countries. The delegations also agreed to unite the organizational frameworks of both ministries and to fully coordinate between the social insurance organizations in Syria and in Iraq.

This was contained in the final resolutions issued at the end of the last session. The Syrian delegation to the meetings was headed by Yusuf Ju'aydani, minister of labor and social affairs. The Iraqi delegation was headed by Bakr Mahmud Rasul al-Bashari, minister of labor and social affairs.

The SANA correspondent said that both delegations also ratified a working plan for the ministries of labor and social affairs in Syria and Iraq. The delegations further decided to work in harmony with the existing cooperation and coordination between both countries.

[Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic at 2115 GMT on 7 January adds that the Iraqi delegation "this evening left Damascus at the end of a 5-day official visit to the Syrian Arab republic."]

DARWISH MEETS WITH IRAQI INDUSTRY MINISTER 5 JAN

JN052023Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1950 GMT 5 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpt] Damascus, 5 January--'Isa Darwish, Syrian oil and natural resources minister, met here this evening with Muhammad 'Ayish, Iraqi Revolution Command Council member and minister of industry and minerals. Reporting this today, SANA said that the discussion during the meeting centered on economic and oil matters of mutual concern and the means to develop them in harmony with the Joint National Action Charter between both countries.

ALGERIA

YAHIAOUI SPEAKS AT YOUTH CONFERENCE

LD070244Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] The work of the Constituent Conference of the National Union of Algerian Youth, which has been named the Conference Union of Algerian Youth, which has been named the Conference of Houari Boumediene by its participants in order to laud the departed leader and glorify his work for the masses in defense of their higher interests, continued at the Palace of the Nations at the Pine Club this evening.

Mohamed Salah Yahiaoui, member of the Council of the Revolution and the executive officer in charge of the party apparatus, made an important speech in which he talked about the importance of the conference.

In particular, he said: If your conference is the first national meeting after the death of our great leader, we find in this symbol enough meaning to give us strength and firmness to overcome our painful plight and to reassure us so we do not have to worry about the progress of the revolution because we have you--the revolutionary youth and soldiers--who are mobilized to protect the revolution against the plotting of its enemies at home and abroad.

This is how Boumediene wanted you to be and this is how you wanted to be. In our leader's view, youth symbolizes Algeria's bright present and guaranteed future, and the source of self-strength on which Algeria's progress and development can be built. It is Algerian youth which will take over the torch and continue the implementation of the socialist tasks.

He explained that clarity, taking the side of right, adherence to principles, and insistence to continue the work in the dictionary of the revolution are not merely transient words or sentiments called for by the occasion. Mohamed Salah Yahiaoui, in this connection said that the party has affirmed to undertake the normal functioning of institutions and to safeguard the organizations so that they can perform their tasks which are defined in the charter and the constitution and also to insure the continuation of the revolution along the same program which was drawn up by the late leader Houari Boumediene.

We have avoided or indeed, we have fought against the creation of organizations which are mere facades that do not express the penetration of the revolution into the depth of the masses or that have no organic link with the people's daily worries and preoccupations. Here, brother Yahiaoui defined the criteria and the means that insure the socialist revolution's attainment of its great objective. The criteria which have been defined by the national charter are the shield which protects and insures the continuation of the revolution and protects it against deviation and gives it immunity against hesitation, doubt and waiting.

At the end of his speech, Mohamed Salah Yahiaoui urged the youth to be vigilant, especially when their conference is held at an historic and crucial stage in the march of the revolution which is exposed to provocations and hostile campaigns, and that the revolution relentlessly works toward an image and model of the free man who rejects domination, exploitation and subservience in all forms. From this clear platform, Algeria has indicted and will continue to indict all the attitudes of defeatism, and dangerous conspiring in the Arab arena--both its East and West--because the alliance between reactionary, imperialist and Zionist forces seeks to impose a capitulationist solution on the fighting Palestinian people.

Also, the Moroccan regime which was not content with the tension it has created in the area and the hardship and deprivation it has brought on the fraternal Moroccan people as a result of its launching of the aggressive war in the Western Sahara, still works to widen the circle of the adventure. It does this through its attempts to provoke Algeria and its revolution in culmination of its services to imperialism and colonialism and in order to inundate the Moroccan people with more exploitation and domination.

Brother Mohamed Salah Yahiaoui added: As Algeria has been the pride of the Arab nation and a beacon that lights the way to the peoples who are struggling in all parts of the world, it will continue to be a lighthouse and a fortress of struggle against exploitation, subservience and a powerful and trusted voice expressing the revolution of the Third World and its lawful aspirations.

SUDAN

DECREE ON POLITICAL ACTIVITIES ISSUED BY PRESIDENT

JN061053Y Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1025 GMT 6 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 6 December--President Numayri, chairman of the Sudanese Socialist Party, has issued Decree No 1 for the year 1979 providing for the formation of committees for political supervision for the various Sudan districts. The committees will be made up of members of the Central Committee of the Sudanese Socialist Party and from the People's Assembly Commission.

WESTERN SAHARA

APS REPORTS SAHARAN DEFENSE MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE ON OPERATIONS

LD072346Y Algiers APS in French 1000 GMT 7 Jan 79 LD

[Summary] Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (liberated territories), 7 Jan 79, APS--The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic Defense Ministry has issued a communique on the operations of the Saharan People's Liberation Army [ALPS] against the royal occupation troops within the framework of the "Houari Boumediene offensive."

The ALPS has again inflicted heavy losses on the occupation forces in El Aaiun region and in south Morocco; 67 soldiers have been killed and several vehicles and tanks destroyed.

In southern Morocco the ALPS troops attacked the enemy at Sebkhet Lebreidit, 60 km southeast of Tantan, on 4 January. Enemy losses are estimated at 17 killed and about 15 wounded; 4 vehicles, including a gun-carrying jeep, are estimated to have been destroyed.

Much more severe losses were inflicted on the royal forces between Doheira and Ngued Ou near El Aaiun on the same afternoon. An enemy column was attacked and several elements of it destroyed. As a result of this attack, the occupation forces left 38 soldiers killed and several vehicles and armored cars on the battlefield.

When withdrawing toward El Aaiun, the royal troops drove into a minefield set by the ALPS and a further 6 vehicles, including 4 jeeps, were destroyed and 12 soldiers killed.

UNILATERAL IMPLEMENTATION OF AUTONOMY PLAN DISCUSSED

TA051026Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 5 Jan 79 p 1 TA

[By Yehuda Litani]

[Text] Senior Israeli governmental circles assess that if it is not possible to reach an agreement with Egypt soon, Israel will initiate a unilateral implementation of the autonomy plan in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Senior cabinet ministers share this assessment. According to it the autonomy plan would be applied in stages, first in the Gaza Strip, and, if it proves successful there, in the West Bank.

According to the estimate of sources who are well informed about events in the held territories the autonomy plan in the Gaza Strip can be implemented without special or a great many difficulties with the help of Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa and the power centers concentrated in the refugee camps in Gaza.

The HA'AREZ correspondent notes that widespread opposition exists in the West Bank to the autonomy plan, and that except for marginal supporters all important public elements in the West Bank, including the PLO and the supporters of Jordan, share the opposition to the autonomy (as it is presented by Israel).

In discussions held in the past between Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman the latter has not expressed any objection to appointing Maj Gen Shelomo Gazit, who is currently serving as the head of military intelligence and who will shortly be discharged from his position, as the coordinator of matters dealing with autonomy affairs. In this position he will be subordinate to Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan.

Maj Gen Shelomo Gazit in the past headed Dayan's office when the latter served as chief of staff and relations of trust were created between the two over the years. Before he became head of military intelligence Major General Gazit served as the coordinator of IDF activities in the held territories.

BEGIN, WEIZMAN MEET U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

TA072003Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew GMT 7 Jan 79 TA

[Text] This evening Prime Minister Menahem Begin expressed the hope that within a week or two the peace talks will be resumed. The prime minister said, the way is now open for the resumption of the talks. Mr Begin said that the initiative is now in the hands of the United States and it must convene the two sides for a continuation of the talks. The prime minister made these remarks at a meeting with six members of the Armed Services Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives. The committee members arrived in Israel today from Egypt in the course of a tour they are making which also includes several European countries. Nahman Shay reports.

[begin videotape] Congressman Robert Wilson [as heard] is the group's spokesman: As-Sadat, the president of Egypt, told us yesterday afternoon that the problem is no longer whether but when--when the peace agreement between Israel and Egypt will be signed. The Egyptian president, who surveyed the world map for the U.S. group, underlined his concern at the collapse of pro-Western countries. In this context, he also drew the conclusion that the signing of the treaty between Israel and Egypt should be speeded up.

At an earlier meeting with the group, Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman told them that Israel regards with concern the strengthening on our northeastern border--the strengthening of the Syrian-Iraqi alliance. This survey was an introduction to remarks Prime Minister Menahem Begin made to them. Israel is demonstrating continued stability in comparison with the changes going on all around, Menahem Begin said, and he hoped that stability will be established in Iran with the establishment of the new government. The prime minister emphasized to the members of the group Israel's willingness to resume the negotiations and with this message he took his leave of them.

[Congressman Larry McDonald] Prime Minister Begin has stated this afternoon that he is ready to sign the agreement that was presented at Camp David. I think that all I can say at this time is that negotiations are now slated to go forward and, speaking as the spokesman of this delegation, I can assure you that every member of this delegation and, without question, the members of the United States Congress, will be pleased that the peace efforts will go forward at this time. [end videotape]

PEACE TALKS REPORTEDLY TO RESUME NEXT WEEK

TA072004Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 7 Jan 79 TA

[Text] The political talks among the United States, Israel and Egypt will, as far as can be seen, be resumed the middle of next week. This is reported by our political correspondent, Elimelekh Ram.

The cabinet will hold another session this week to discuss the letter by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance on the resumption of the deliberations on the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt. Our correspondent adds that Israel will be represented in these talks by Ministers Dayan and Weizman and Egypt will be represented by Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil and Acting Foreign Minister Butrus Ghali.

The prime minister today reconfirmed last week's decision that the cabinet will discuss the nature of the autonomy before it signs a peace agreement between Israel and Egypt. The decision was reconfirmed at the request of Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon.

GREATER ISRAEL GROUP DEMANDS SUSPENSION OF PEACE TALKS.

TA071609Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 7 Jan 79 TA

[Text] The Greater Israel Movement demands that the government suspend the peace process because of the change in the political map of the Middle East. The movement says that the declaration of the new Iranian prime minister about stopping the oil supply to Israel, as well as Khomeyni's declaration of his support for the PLO have not been added to the policy of the government, which is abandoning the oil resources in the Gulf of Elat and is giving up the minimal strategic depth that is needed by Israel. The Greater Israel Movement is therefore calling on the people of Israel to force the government to abandon its policy.

SOVIET SHIPS REPORTED OFF ISRAELI, LEBANESE COASTS

TA051045Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 5 Jan 79 p 1 TA

[By Ya'aqov Erez]

[Text] Intelligence ships and submarines of the Soviet Navy in the Mediterranean are sailing near the territorial waters of Israel and off the Lebanese coast.

Vessels have recently noticed a Soviet intelligence ship sailing 20 miles off the shores of this country. This ship had modern equipment enabling it to follow what is happening here at long range and to intercept electronic communications.

That same ship was seen off Israel's coast a few months ago.

A Soviet submarine was recently spotted off the Lebanese coast. This is the second time recently that such a submarine has been seen in the area. It seems that its objective was to follow the activity of Israeli Navy ships and the maritime traffic of the Lebanese Christians.

The Soviet Navy in the Mediterranean today consists of 47 vessels.

UNIFIL COMMANDER INTERVIEWED ON JERUSALEM TELEVISION

TA072025Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 7 Jan 79 TA

[Text] The war council of the five militias in southern Lebanon met today in Marj 'Uyun and called on all militiamen to prepare for a prolonged struggle. The militias' commanders concluded that bringing down a Lebanese, pro-Syrian, army to the south was an abominable trick by the commanders of the UN force, who had failed to prevent terrorist infiltration into the area.

It appears that another meeting of the military commanders in southern Lebanon will be held tomorrow--Christians, Shi'ites and Druze; it will be in Bint Jubayl.

The commander of the UN force in southern Lebanon, Gen Emmanuel Erskine, denies reports about the transfer of large forces of the Lebanese Army to the south. In an interview with Mabat [television news], Erskine says that it is a purely symbolic force intended to make communications easier between the UN force and the Lebanese Government. Correspondent Gil Sadan spoke with General Erskine today. [begin videotape--interview in English]

[Erskine] What the Lebanese Government is trying to do is to send only a symbolic presence of the authority in terms of the Lebanese Army.

[Question] What is the size of the symbolic presence?

[Answer] Well, we are talking of only an officer and a soldier to start with and later on building this to nothing more than a section, a section of 8 or 10. But I am sure, you know, the symbolic presence of 2 soldiers or 10, I mean, that's no threat at all and we are here to help the Lebanese people to live, we are here to help the Lebanese Government to establish its authority and this is only the beginning. This is only the beginning and, as true Lebanese, as true Lebanese, I think the Christians must welcome this and make sure that they help us to fulfill...

[Question] In other words, eventually there will be a Lebanese Army force, a substantial Lebanese Army force, in the south?

[Answer] I hope so, I hope so, otherwise we will not be able to execute the mandate.

[Question] General, recently there were reports that UNIFIL forces have actually allowed the PLO forces to infiltrate to the south. What is your comment to that?

[Answer] Lately, since the last 4, 6 weeks, there have been intensification of activities, both from the Christian side--which has also generated activities from the PLO--and the other elements' side.

[Question] In other words, the blame is nearly on the Christian side?

[Answer] Well, I would say that most of the activities have started from the Christian side and we feel that if this doesn't happen, there won't be the sort of counterreaction from the other side.

[Question] Do you feel that you are actually losing control of the situation?

[Answer] We are not. We are not. I think that our job is becoming more and more difficult, but we are not losing control at all. On the contrary, I think we are trying everything that we can to stabilize the situation. [end videotape]

NO FUNDS IN DEFENSE BUDGET FOR SINAI PULLBACK

TA080730Y Jerusalem POST in English 8 Jan 79 p 3 TA

[By Hirsh Goodman]

[Text] The IDF has had to reduce its overall procurement programme as a result of cuts in this year's defence budget, a senior military source said in Tel Aviv yesterday.

According to the source, this will mean not only a cutback in purchase of weapons, but also in the size of Israelis stockpiles and ammunition stores.

The source continued that nowhere in the cabinet-approved 1979 defence budget of IL34.5 billion have any funds been designated for the Sinai pullback, or for the building of an alternative defence infrastructure in the Negev.

The IDF general staff, the source said, had worked out two separate operational plans for 1979--one based on the assumption that there would be an agreement with Egypt necessitating a pullback, and the other assuming that the status quo would continue. The budget, however, has been finalized on the assumption that no extra costs will be incurred as a result of an agreement. He said he had no idea where the money would come from should the defence establishment be called on to effect a pullback this year.

The source continued that even if all necessary money were found, the government would have to establish a very clear set of priorities. He said that the Israeli economy is capable, at this stage, of handling only about IL12 billion in construction per year, while the projected cost of the pullback, not counting construction of two airfields, is close to IL40 billion. This means, the source explained, that certain jobs will have to be completed first, while others will have to wait.

Responding to criticism that the general IDF reorganization now underway would call for a huge investment in manpower, the source claimed that in many instances the IDF was employing more manpower than was budgeted. The reorganization, he said, would put an end to "this lie" and raise quotas up to actual manpower levels.

IDF TO CONTINUE MANEUVERS IN WEST BANK

TA080951Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 8 Jan 79 p 1 TA

[Text] The IDF intends to continue carrying out large-scale maneuvers in Judaea and Samaria even after the autonomy is established there. This is revealed in the IDF'S deployment program and in the designation of maneuver zones prepared by the general staff.

The new IDF deployment program deals primarily with the Negev, but it also includes substantive changes in Judaea and Samaria in line with the interpretation the defense establishment is giving to the Camp David agreements and the autonomy. It follows from this that IDF units that will be deployed in various places in the West Bank will not content themselves simply with being in the area but will, as in the past hold maneuvers in the Jordan Rift Valley and in Judaea and Samaria.

As for the deployment in the Negev, it is reported that the locations of the airfields in the area were decided upon after discussions. Who will construct them and whether foreign and other elements will be involved has not yet been decided. Chief of Staff Eytan recently issued an order on closing off the territory in the Tel Malhata area near 'Arad. The problem is that each of these airfields neutralizes many areas for the ground forces, thus cutting down on their training areas. However, it is reported that the large training bases in the Negev have already been decided upon, as have the training areas for the regular units and the reserve forces from the different corps.

The general staff says that if we want the IDF to be an effective deterrent in 1981, some of the work on its communications-deployment in the Negev must be speeded up. It is estimated that the Israeli economy is already capable of doing the groundwork this year at a cost of about IL12 billion. (A smaller sum than this was decided upon for it.) The order of preference for the groundwork decided upon by the general staff is: first, the airfields, then control and deterrence positions, the communications network, training bases and, finally the infrastructure for the regular units.

CABINET DECIDES TO ABSORB 100 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

NC071120Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 100 GMT 7 Jan 79 NC

[Text] In its session today, the cabinet decided to absorb 100 of the Vietnamese refugees whose boat is anchored off the Malaysian coast, and will send a special plane to transfer them to Israel. The cabinet also decided to set up a directorate committee to deal with the absorption of these refugees. The cabinet secretary said that the cabinet is not approving a temporary absorption and that Israeli citizenship will be granted to those who ask for it.

Our political correspondent, Shalom Qital, says that in the cabinet meeting, the prime minister also reported on the condition of the Jews in Ethiopia and the treatment that is being accorded to this subject.

On reports concering the establishment of relations with the PRC, a top-level source told our correspondent that the reports published in the Israeli newspapers on this subject are not correct.

JERUSALEM SAID HOPEFUL ABOUT CHANCES FOR TIES WITH PRC

TA071332Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 7 Jan 79 p 1 TA

[By Arye Zimmuqi]

[Excerpts] Israel might send our feelers via the United States and other Western elements in an attempt to clarify the possibility of establishing relations with China.

At the same time it appears that Jerusalem will wait for developments in Chinese policy toward the West before beginning practical feelers.

Jerusalem points to certain encouraging signs about the changes of relations being established between China and Israel:

--A significant moderation has been felt in the tone of Chinese remarks about Israel in the months prior to the establishment of relations between China and the United States;

--China is one of the few communist countries which has not expressed reservations about the Camp David agreements and As-Sadat's visit to Israel;

--In the past few months the Chinese communications media have ceased using hostile language with respect to Israel (even though they have repeatedly stressed that Israel should withdraw from all territories).

At the same time, it has been pointed out that Chinese diplomats in various capitals have avoided holding meetings with Israeli representatives and Jerusalem has not noticed any change in the Chinese position toward Israel over the past week since the establishment of relations between China and the United States.

Israel has frequently expressed the willingness to maintain diplomatic relations with China and has made attempts to make contact with China through various statesmen, including Romanian President Ceausescu, former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and British Prime Minister James Callaghan.

SECURITY FORCES UNCOVER FOUR TERRORIST SQUADS

TA0718447 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 7 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Security personnel have recently uncovered four terrorist squads in Hebron--two of them belong to Fatah. They are credited with having carried out four attacks in Israel and Samaria, including placing a bomb in the Qalqiliyah Market. An inhabitant of the town was injured in that attack. Two other squads were arrested before they managed to carry out attacks.

One of the terrorists surrendered a rifle to his interrogators. The squad had intended to murder local inhabitants who are suspected by them of collaborating with Israel.

To date, 35 terrorists have been arrested; the investigation is continuing.

WEST BANK INSTITUTIONS PROTEST UNRWA MEASURES

JN0620137 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 31 Dec 78 p 2 JN

[Text] Jerusalem--The West Bank mayors and the head of the vocational and labor unions as well as the heads of the charitable and women's societies in the West Bank have sent a memo to (George Galibo), director of the UNRWA operations in the West Bank; to the UN secretary general; and to the chairman of the Executive Council of UNRWA Employees in the West Bank. The memo protests the undeclared liquidation of UNRWA activities. The following is the text of the memo:

A Palestinian Arab greeting: The majors and heads of the vocational and labor unions in the West Bank find it their duty to denounce and protest the undeclared liquidation of UNRWA activities through the continued curbing of allocations and services rendered to the Palestinian refugees. The UN General Assembly founded UNRWA to provide these services until a just solution to the Palestine issue is found. The plot of liquidation is being implemented through the measures taken against UNRWA employees who are administering UNRWA activities and services.

Today we are seeing UNRWA remove itself from its commitments not only toward the Palestinian refugees, but also toward UNRWA employees. This is being done under the pretext of a financial deficit.

The conference of the Federation of UNRWA Employees held in Damascus recently has warned against the plot of the undeclared liquidation of UNRWA activities. The conference has decided to confront UNRWA to make it change its mind regarding the continuation of this alarming design. The conference wants to guarantee the future of UNRWA employees and safeguard their rights. This has been rejected by UNRWA which has also rejected the method of dialog. It insists on continuing to abandon its commitments toward the refugees and its employees. In deciding at the Damascus conference to stage their strike, the UNRWA employees are exercising a legitimate right to achieve the legitimate goal of preventing the liquidation of UNRWA activities.

Transfering the head office of UNRWA to Vienna from the area where the Palestinian refugees are residing in their camps and where the UNRWA employees are performing their services in serving the refugees, and sending orders and instructions from there to reduce rations, services and jobs--this is confirmed by the statements made by (Thomas McLihini)--arouses suspicion about this administration which is trying to make UNRWA deviate from its humanitarian goals and turn it into an instrument to implement a policy hostile to the ambitions of our Palestinian Arab people.

A small group of UNRWA employees is benefiting in an opportunistic way and has been entrusted with the task of implementing the liquidation of UNRWA services. This small group of UNRWA employees has violated the unanimity of the employees and is trying in vain to instigate against the unanimous resolution adopted by the Damascus conference. We denounce the stand of this small opportunistic group and tell it: Fear God for the sake of your brothers and people if you belong to them.

MAFDAL, HAMMER STANCE ON W. BANK ASSESSED

TA051348Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 5 Jan 79 p 13 TA

['Uzzi Benziman commentary]

[Excerpts] This week a series of events illustrated the MAFDAL's bargaining position in the cabinet: Sunday, it was the way the three MAFDAL ministers voted on the draft proposal put forward by Menahem Begin on the matter of the continuation of the negotiations with Egypt; Monday, Minister Zevulun Hammer intervened with the prime minister to prevent the IDF's using force to remove the Gush Emunim members who had taken positions at the side of the road leading to Nabulus, and on Tuesday Ministers Burg, Hammer and Abu-Hazera signaled to begin that if he did not push Shelomo Lahat into canceling his decision to open the Cameri Theater on Friday evening the MAFDAL was likely to leave the government.

Hammer is one of those who agreed to give back the entire Sinai to the Egyptians, to remove the Israeli settlements from the Yamit strip, to compromise on the matter of the application of sovereignty over Judaea and Samaria (through postponing the final decision,) to freeze settlement, to establish the administration of the autonomy and thus to increase the risk that Israel will lose its grasp over these areas.

Now the MAFDAL is facing a period likely to be decisive in the negotiations and, in any case, the necessity to decide the future of its participation in the government. [paragraph continues]

Standing in the doorway is the next stage, maybe the final one, of the political contacts with Egypt, which will involve touching the MAFDAL's most sensitive nerve: the future of the West Bank. Will Hammer and his colleagues continue to belong to the group of ministers in the cabinet who want to reach a settlement with Egypt, or will they refuse to pay the price demanded for this in the West Bank and Gaza Strip?

When Zevulun Hammer was asked why he was not also willing to sacrifice his well-known position on the future of Judaea and Samaria on the altar of peace, he replied that there are sensitive and practical obstacles preventing him and, as he sess it, also preventing most of his party from abandoning their belief in the chance of strengthening the Israeli grasp on these areas. "It was also possible to obtain peace in return for a comprehensive withdrawal in the past," the minister of education says, relying on publications which have recently come to light about the late Mrs Meir's time as prime minister.

"From this viewpoint, refusing to grant Egypt's demand that we also concede Judaea and Samaria after we have returned to it the entire Sinai Peninsula does not mean missing the chance to achieve peace, since under these conditions it will always be possible to reach a settlement with the Arabs," he adds.

Hammer determines that there is a value to the emotional reason stopping him and his colleagues from agreeing to grant the Egyptian demands in the eastern sector. Just as the decisive majority of the Israeli people is not prepared to pay the price Egypt is demanding on the matter of the return of East Jerusalem to Arab rule, so, in his view, the MAFDAL approach, which rejects a concession on the West Bank, should also be understood. Zionism chose Eretz Yisra'el as the place for the national renaissance for emotional reasons. Had this not been so, Uganda would have been preferable. The cradle of the Jewish nation was in the fields of Judaea and Samaria and these emotional values are valid, as far as Hammer is concerned, in the formulation of the cabinet's approach to the negotiations with Egypt over the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The minister of education also adds the security reason. Hammer again raises the claim that the Yom Kippur War proved the value of strategic depth. The principles of the military settlement now being discussed concerning Sinai cannot apply to the West Bank because of its size, the proximity of the eastern front and the strength of the military forces held in reserve in Jordan, Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

This, it appears, is one of the contradictions over which the MAFDAL has been hesitating ever since As-Sadat's visit. After all, from a purely military viewpoint there is a point to examining which military arrangement it would be preferable to apply to the West Bank: demilitarization, early warning stations and other security measures (similar to those used in Sinai), in a situation of peace that would also apply to Israel's relations with Jordan and Syria, or the continuation of the confrontation with the Arab countries to the east and the perpetuation of the vulnerability of the settlement with Egypt. If this alternative appears to be too far-reaching, then the MAFDAL ought to reply to the concrete alternative now on the agenda: a military arrangement in the West Bank permitting a continuation of IDF presence and Israeli intervention in moves which will determine the future of the areas--or a renewal of the settlement and a possible disruption of the negotiations with Egypt.

In order to get out of the not-so-simple alternative, Hammer says that without Jewish settlement in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip there is no long-term chance of an IDF presence in these areas. Without an appreciable Jewish presence in the autonomy area, the area will develop into a hostile Palestinian state which will increase the dangers to Israel's existence. Is the emphasis on the idea of settlement not simply lip service, in view of Gush Emunim's lack of human reserves?

Hammer says, surprisingly, that the settlement activity should not be continued to be based on voluntary organizations. Increasing the number of Jewish settlers in Judaea and Samaria, Minister Hammer says, is a matter for initiated and coordinated national action. It must be an integral part of the image of the West Bank in the next few years and the Arab partners in the negotiations should know the government's intentions on this matter from the beginning.

Hammer also rejects the intellectual approach, pointing at Israel's lack of chances of driving a real wedge into the West Bank, in view of thelarge quantitative advantage of the Arab inhabitants in these terrirories: he claims that the chances of an Israeli hold on Judaea and Samaria should be examined in accordance with the criteria which shaped the history of the people of Israel. The people were always in the minority, they always worked in conditions which were superficially hopeless, the Jewish "extra spark" was always the miraculous guiding power permitting the Jewish people to remain. He wants to draw an analogy between the competition between the Zionist movement and the Arab inhabitants in Eretz Yisra'el during the first days of Zionism and the state of Israel's chances of establishing a real Jewish presence in the West Bank.

He says that, referring to the future of the West Bank, he is influenced by the events of the holocaust. "We came to Eretz Yisra'el in order to take our fate into our own hands and we do not want to again get into the pincers of a small territory." A situation of peace is not simple from any aspect, how much more so if it applies to a cutdown and dwarfed state.

Does the MAFDAL fear peace? The minister of education says: It would be an enormous challenge to guard the Israeli and Jewish unity within an Arab sea. I am willing to cope with this challenge, in which the people will be examined as to whether they are indeed willing to found a society with quality and unity and not to accept the molds of a degenerating and decadent society, which are already noticeable here. We must come to peace with a feeling of a mission, not fatigue. In any case, he would prefer to cope with the difficulties which will be created in the wake of the founding of peace to the spiritual and psychological problems aroused by war.

On the basis of his security claims about the West Bank being essential, does this not show a preconceived notion that there is no chance of maintaining a situation of peace with the Arab neighbors in the east? Hammer says: the calm countries of Europe also fortify their security. According to him, Middle Eastern peace--if it is indeed made--will be in a completely different format from that of European peace.

The state of Israel must establish its future on security factors much more credible than those guiding the other Western countries, both because of the nation's fate in the past and because of the instability of the regimes in the Arab countries. As-Sadat is not keeping his promises to take the Israeli sensitivity toward security into account. The Egyptian president is presenting demands concerning the security arrangements in the West Bank which do not fit in with Israel's views on the security conditions it must apply to this front.

The very fact of founding the autonomy is an appreciable security risk, says Hammer, who supported with the other MAFDAL ministers, introducing the program for self-rule drawn up by Menahem Begin.

According to the thoughts of Hammer and his colleagues, Judaism is not a religion which dictates dealing with simplistic, spiritual issues alone--it supplies answers to daily problems. The MAFDAL aspires to influence all spheres of activity of this government and not only the problems between man and God. Therefore, they are diligent in containing the governmental opposition to the demonstration activities of Gush Emunim, just as they are advising the cabinet to renew the settlement of the West Bank. On this issue, too, the government is standing on the threshold of a decisive period of time.

Hammer, Burg and also ministers from the Likud are pressing for decisions to be made to renew settlement activity. It appears that the main objective will be the Jordan Rift Valley. Is the party also likely to threaten resignation for the sake of advancing of the MAFDAL's views in this sphere? "The settlements are important for us. If the government decides that we will not continue to settle or decide to remove settlements from Judaea and Samaria--we will regard this as crossing over the red line we have set for ourselves on this issue. If the government puts off its decisions on the matter of renewing the settlement impetus for an 'unreasonable length of time,' we will also regard this as a warning signal. We are waiting for the actualization of the principle of settlement which is superficially accepted by the government. These decisions and their practical character will affect our attitude to the government," the minister of education says.

Yesterday Hammer went on a tour of the West Bank, in order to have a close look at putting into operation the fleshing-out decision made (to no small degree, under his influence) 3 months ago. As far as is known, this did not succeed in attracting hundreds of new settlers to the tiny Israeli settlements in Judaea and Samaria.

LABOR PARTY DISCUSSES NEW KNESSET ALLIANCE

TA051035Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 5 Jan 79 p 4 TA

[By Moshe Meisels]

[Text] The head of the Labor Party, Mk Shim'on Peres, reported at the meeting of the party bureau's secretariat yesterday that initial contacts have been held toward the establishment of a parliamentary alliance between the Alinement, the Movement for Change and Initiative, the Independent Liberals and the Citizens Rights Movement.

Peres said he had sent a letter to MAPAM's secretary general, Mk Me'ir Talmi, in which he suggests that an examination be begun of the possibilities for a union between the Labor Party and MAPAM to replace the Alinement. He intends to propose that the number of Labor Party bureau members be increased by 10 percent. In the meetings of the party bureau and center on Sunday he will suggest coopting Reserve Lieutenant General Gur into the bureau. He will also suggest the inclusion of Gid'on Ben-Yisra'el in the bureau to replace Yizhaq Navon. He will soon submit for approval by the party bureau a proposal to set up two committees--one political and one economic.

TEHRAN, MOST OTHER CITIES QUIET 5 JANUARY

LD051146Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Although Tehran and most Iranian cities were quiet today, demonstrations took place in a number of cities. Taking advantage of the good weather, the people of Tehran today went out to the city's walkways and parks and, thanks to the light traffic attributable to the gas shortage, Tehran appeared tranquil. Our correspondents' dispatches from provincial centers indicate that most Iranian cities were quiet today, only in a few cities were there demonstrations and these took the form of orderly marches. Our Tabriz correspondent reported that several marches were held in the cities of Maragheh, Sarab, Azarshahr, 'Ajab Shir and Gonab this morning and the demonstrators finally dispersed quietly. According to our correspondent's dispatch, a group of people took part in an orderly march in Yazd Province, too, and after holding a rally at Hazireh Mosque the demonstrators condemned the recent incidents in the cities of Mashhad and Qazvin. Also in Ahvaz and Rudsar there were similar quiet demonstrations and marches.

SENATE INVESTIGATORS POSTPONE DEPARTURE TO MASHHAD, QAZVIN

LD051214Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The two missions which had been delegated by the Senate to leave for the cities of Mashhad and Qazvin to investigate recent incidents there have postponed their departure because of lack of fuel and the strike by railroad and Iran air workers. Confirming this report in a telephone interview today, Dr Mohammad Sajjadi, Senate president, noted that the Senators concerned would leave at the earliest opportunity for these two cities to complete their mission.

BAKHTIAR CHAIRS GOVERNMENT COUNCIL SESSION 6 JAN

LD061224Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Immediately after being received in audience by the shahanshah, the government council held a session under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar. After the conclusion of the session, which lasted nearly 2 hours, the prime minister attended a meeting of correspondents and placed at their disposal information on the issues discussed by the government council. Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar said that during the session the salient points of the government's policy were discussed and that it was decided that each minister should have his proposed program of action ready for Bakhtiar by Monday so that on the basis of these, the government's action program can be worked out.

BAKHTIAR'S SPEECH AT PRESENTATION OF CABINET TO SHAH

LD061210Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1033 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD

[Speech made by Shahpur Bakhtiar, Iranian prime minister, during the presentation of his cabinet to the shahanshah on 6 January--read by announcer]

[Text] Shahanshah, the members of this cabinet, who have always demonstrated to all their respect for the constitution and their good name, today have the full honor to be introduced to your imperial majesty.

I hope that, in the present difficult circumstances, they will be able to render services aimed at promoting the calmness, pride and unity of the Iranian nation as soon as possible and that they will achieve success in this task. At the same time I am confident that your imperial majesty will generously grant the utmost favor and consideration to all people in the country, including these servants who today have the honor of being received in audience and, that moreover, the government will enjoy the moral support of your imperial majesty with full confidence.

Shah Addresses Cabinet

LD061320Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1035 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD

[Text of speech by Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, shahansha of Iran, on the occasion of the presentation of Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar's cabinet, in Tehran on 6 January--recorded]

[Text] (?You may recall) that on 6 November, 1978, I made a speech addressed to the Iranian nation, which probably a great many people heard, in which I undertook certain commitments which naturally I shall endeavor to carry out.

One of these commitments was that we should find a political solution for Iran's problems in response to and inspired by the movement started by the Iranian people, who thus conveyed their message to me and anybody (?listening).

Iran, with its past history, is a country which must survive. Such a history, saturated with exciting and proud periods, cannot remain stagnant; this history must continue. The continuation of Iranian history in today's world should be based on the participation of all members of the nation. Both I and other patriots believe this. Fortunately, our constitution and our laws have facilitated this participation. People's literacy has facilitated this even more. People's basic rights have ascertained this, and now, the need for more participation in affairs shall make the people participate in all aspects and matters related to them in accordance with their conscience and, of course, taste and ideas.

These are the rights which have fortunately been provided for the Iranian people by the constitution. On the other hand, there are the duties of every individual with respect to his country and society. No society can survive without the accepted obligations of the people. As I stated in my speech on 7 November, I take the opportunity of the formation of this new government, formed to find a political solution, to point out articles 44 and 45 of the constitution, over and above the other points raised in it which relate to the present situation. I wish to point out that both myself and the government shall observe these articles. There are other points which take time to be raised.

Apart from this, I do hope that the government may (?succeed) in implementing these tasks, which one should not try to hide; they are extremely difficult tasks. I do not believe there is any other motive but selflessness and love of the country for the head of state, the prime minister and other members of the government in undertaking this task. I furthermore wish the government success for, once the government is formed and we feel better as a result, and after sustaining so much because of the recent events, I must say that I am fatigued and need a rest. If this rest is to take place outside Iran, according to the constitution and our traditions, there will be a need for a regency council, so that the constitution can continue in full force.

Most important of all, it is the country's wheels which must resume operation and the country's must be reactivated. I do not foresee any bright future for anybody if our country's economy is not reactivated. I believe everyone in this country would suffer greatly from it. Consequently, for various reasons, I wish success for this government. God willing and with the blessing of the pure imams. I hope we may be able to return things to normalcy under the protection of the Koran and the sublime precepts of Islam.

TEHRAN REPORTS MEMBERS OF BAKHTIAR'S CABINET

LD060852Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0830 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The shahanshah aryamehr received in audience Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar, the prime minister, this morning. During the audience, Dr Bakhtiar introduced to his imperial majesty the members of his cabinet as follows:

Minister of Justice	Mr Yahya Sadeq-Vaziri
Minister of War	Gen Fereydun Jam
Minister of Foreign Affairs	Mr Ahmad Mir-Fendereski
Minister of Education and Training	Mr Mohammad Amin Riahi
Minister of Health and Welfare	Dr Manuchehr Razmara
Minister of Labor and Social Affairs	Mr Manuchehr Ariana
Minister of Housing and Urban Development	Engineer Javad Khadem-Ahmadabadi
Minister of State and Supervisor of Information and Tourism	Dr Sirus Amuzgar
Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance	Dr Rostam Pirasteh
Minister of Post, Telegraph and Telephone	Engineer Lotfiali Samimi
Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources	Mr Manuchehr Kazemi
Minister of Industries and Mines	Dr 'Abbasqoli Bakhtiar
Financial and Administrative to the Deputy Prime Minister	Mr Mohammad Moshiri-Yazdi

In the meantime, the portfolio for the Interior Ministry is entrusted to Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar, the prime minister.

NATIONAL VOICE OF IRAN RADIO BEHAVIOR ON 6 JAN REPORTED

TA061953 [Editorial Report TA] National Voice of Iran [Clandestine] in Persian carried two similar if not identical 15-minute programs beginning at 1730 and 1800 GMT, respectively. They included a commentary making a harsh attack on American intervention in Iran and on the collusion of the new prime minister, Shahpur Bakhtiar, with American interests. The commentator warned Bakhtiar that he should realize that the circumstances surrounding the formation of his cabinet amount to treasonous cooperation with America, because the cabinet selection was done following negotiations with the Central Intelligence Agency.

Furthermore, people who have exploited the dignity and property of the people of Iran will be punished. No family in Iran, the commentary noted, has been left untouched by the activity of the regime and, focusing on the oil workers, the broadcast said something to the effect that they will not produce any more oil for export until the regime has been overthrown.

The theme of obvious American intervention and adventurism in Iran was repeated frequently, and Washington was accused of using its habitual methods through CIA manipulations to protect the regime and frustrate the national movement and the desires of the people. Declarations by Mr Brezhnev were quoted, but poor reception made them impossible to understand.

FUEL SHORTAGE IN TEHRAN TO EASE WITHIN 'DAY OR TWO'

LD072124Y Tehran in English to Europe 2000 GMT 7 Jan 79 LD

[Text] 'Abdollah Entezam, managing director of the NIOC, has announced that oil for domestic consumption has begun flowing in the pipelines once again. For that, he wished to express his thanks to Mehdi Bazargan, the Iran's Freedom Party chief [one of the parties in the coalition National Front], who led a delegation to Khuzestan oilfields to persuade the workers to produce at least enough for internal consumption.

Entezam's announcement on Iran radio said the hard-working employees of the oil industry have gone back to their jobs in the oilfields and that those involved in the operations in the industries were expected to begin working today.

An NIOC spokesman [words indistinct] that the oil being produced was being piped to the Abadan refinery, which was now turning out refined products for domestic needs, namely gasoline, kerosene and diesel fuel. The products are being sent to Tehran and other parts in the country through all the available means of oil transportation: pipeline, rail tankers, road tankers and small shipping tankers, which took the refined products to various Persian Gulf ports, such as Bandar Abbas and the Iranian islands in the Persian Gulf.

Radio Iran said [as heard] that trains with rail tankers left Abadan yesterday for the capital. The NIOC source was unable to confirm this, but said that the fuel shortage in the capital was expected to begin easing within a day or two.

Diplomatic sources also told reporters that the oil workers have told Bazargan they would resume production for domestic consumption only. Bazargan is reported to be still in Khuzestan continuing his talks with the oil workers, NIOC sources said. Informed sources said that oil production in the field has gone up to 1 million barrels a day as of yesterday. The NIOC was unable to confirm this officially, but one NIOC source said unofficially that the current consumption was a little less than 1 million barrels a day. Other oil sources have put this at 600,000 barrels a day. The NIOC source said that as far as he knew, oil production in the field was only 250,000 barrels yesterday, and according to reports reaching the capital, it was expected to be the same today.

Meanwhile, the state-owned railway workers on strike resumed their duties yesterday for the transportation of foodstuffs and kerosene to the different parts of the country. A spokesman for the strikers told reporters that a total of 1.7 million liters of kerosene was transported from Ahvaz to Tehran during Friday and Saturday. More such deliveries will be made to resume the supply of consumer goods in the country, the spokesman said, and pointed out that normal operations of the railways will be resumed only when the demands of the workers are granted.

PRESS ANNOUNCES END OF STRIKE IN TEHRAN

LD061015Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0530 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The 62-day strike by the major sections of the press in the capital has ended. At their session last night, the executive council of writers and press correspondents syndicate made a statement announcing the end of the strike.

The strike by Tehran's morning and evening papers began with the coming to power of the military government and has lasted over 2 months. It is expected that the capital's evening papers will resume publication without any censorship as of today and the morning papers as of tomorrow morning.

STRIKING PARS PERSONNEL RETURN TO WORK

LD071307Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jan 79 LD

[Text] With the ending of newspaper strike, the 7-day strike by writers, correspondents, translators and other personnel of PARS NEWS AGENCY ended today and all of them returned to work. It should be pointed out that PARS NEWS AGENCY personnel took similar action last Azar [22 November to 2 December] and went on strike in protest against a false news report on the events which took place in Tabriz which was attributed to PARS NEWS AGENCY. However, they resumed work after 24 hours, following an appology from former officials of the Ministry of Information and Tourism.

GENERAL RAHIMI APPOINTED MILITARY GOVERNOR OF TEHRAN

LD061546Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD

[Text] At the illustrious decree of his imperial majesty the shah, the supreme commander in chief, as of today, Lt Gen Medhi Rahimi has been appointed military governor of Tehran and vicinity.

MILITARY GOVERNORATE OF TEHRAN ANNOUNCES RELAXATION OF CURFEW

LD061622Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The military governorate of Tehran and vicinity today issued communique No 28, which reads as follows: For the welfare of the respectable inhabitants of the capital, the curfew hours are to be changed effective today, 6 January, from 2100 to 0500 to from 2300 to 0500. The respected citizens are expected to cooperate with the officials of the military governorate of Tehran and vicinity and extend necessary assistance to them.

Lt Gen Mehdi Rahimi, the military governor to Tehran and vicinity.

TEHRAN REPORTS ON 7 JANUARY DEMONSTRATIONS

LD071105Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Demonstrations and marches took place today in certain parts of Tehran and the provinces. The demonstrations in Tehran occurred on Ferdowsi, Eb Sina, Shahreza, Sa'di, Nader Shah and Lalehzar streets as well as on the old Shemiran road. In some cases, the demonstrators set fires and the security forces fired into the air and used tear gas. Latest reports say that marches and demonstrations by opposition groups, without any clashes or inflamatory slogans, continued until a few minutes ago on Navvab and Takht-e Jamshid streets as well as in Mohammad Reza Shah Square.

Policeman Killed in Hamadan

LD071107Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jan 79 LD

[Text] At 1100, a policeman was killed in Emamzadeh Abdollah Square in Hamadan after some shooting by a few people. We have no information yet on the arrest of the culprits.

Stores in Yazd Reopen

LD071234Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Following a series of demonstrations in Yazd last night, most stores and the city's bazaar opened for business today after a long shutdown. However, all bank branches are still closed. With lines of automobiles waiting at gas stations, there were no lines at kerosene stores, as adequate quantities of kerosene have been distributed.

Demonstrations in Jiroft, Tabriz

LD071235Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Scattered demonstrations took place yesterday evening in Jiroft during which the participants attacked the office building of the city council and two municipal trucks, causing some damage. This morning demonstrations were also staged in Tabriz. The demonstrators smashed windows of two banks and a kiosk belonging to city's bus service.

Women Demonstrate for 'Freedom'

LD071236Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jan 79 LD

[Text] A women's march took place today in Semnan, during which they chanted slogans concerning the need for real freedom for Iranian women.

Kermanshah Ulema Calls for Calm

LD071237Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jan 79 LD

[Text] In a statement issued by Kermanshah Ulema, people are asked to maintain calm and order.

FURTHER CALL FOR DAY OF MOURNING ON 8 JANUARY

LD071223Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] According to a PARS NEWS AGENCY correspondent, on the order of his eminence the Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari, 8 January 1979 has been declared a public day of mourning in commemoration of the victims of recent incidents.

The National Front has also declared tomorrow, Monday, a public day of mourning.

Consequently, on the order of the government, all musical programs will be omitted from radio and television programs until 2000 tomorrow.

KHOMEYNI SALUTES IRANIANS FOR CONTINUING UPRISING

LD071626Y Tripoli JANA in English 1435 GMT 7 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Paris, Jan 7, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Iranian nationalist leader, Ayatollah Khomeyni, saluted the Iranian people for continuing their popular uprising in a responsible, alert manner in seeking to overthrow the hireling shah's regime.

In a statement issued today, Khomeyni called for the continuation of the strike in all the country's economic sectors in a bid to strangle the shah's regime [words indistinct] increase its economic paralysis.

Khomeyni praised (?workers) in the field of journalism for refusing to submit to cooperate with the dictatorial regime.

RADIO OF PATRIOTS' BEHAVIOR ON 7 JAN REPORTED

TA072042 [Editorial Report TA] Radio of the Patriots [Clandestine] in Persian at 1615 GMT on 7 January was almost entirely masked at atmospheric interference. Only parts of first few minutes and last 5 minutes of 30-minute broadcast were audible.

First part of the program was a news summary of recent events in Iran citing the locations of demonstrations and numbers killed and injured. The announcer said that one soldier was killed in Hamadan yesterday, and that a (?French) womens' organization had presented a complaint to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. Other remarks were along the theme that "the road of faith is the one we are following," and the regime is "facing the judgment of the masses of the people."

Several statements were also made to the effect that the people will fight until the downfall of the shah, of imperialism and of capitalism in Iran: "They will see the outcome of their stupid efforts." "The people of Iran will bring the reign of evil and oppression to an end."

The following sign-off announcement was heard: "This is the Radio of the Patriots. Fighting fellow countrymen: The Radio of the Patriots is the voice of revolutionary, toiling [word indistinct] of Iran. Send us the news, educational and (?interesting) information that you have via this address. You will thereby do your part in providing the maximum (?disclosure) of the shah's criminal regime: post office box 9004 (?Volniya 18109), Sweden. We will repeat that adress one more time: post office box 9004 (?Volniya 18109), Sweden.

"Fighting fellow countrymen! Revolutionary (?forces)! Today's program of radio of the patriots is ending now. This program is broadcast every night for 1/2 hour beginning at 7:45 in the evening. The Radio of the Patriots program is broadcast on shortwave on the 19 meter, 25 meter, 31 meter and 49 meter bands. Inform your friends and acquaintances about the meter band and time of this program. May you be victorious and successful in the revolutionary struggle!"

ABADAN RADIO TO DISCONTINUE ARABIC PROGRAMS

LD081028Y Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Abadan radio announced this afternoon that, effective this evening and until further notice, it will stop the transmission of its programs in Arabic, including the religious ones. The move, the radio explained, is designed to conserve electricity.

MARTIAL LAW TO BE LIFTED IN SHIRAZ 9 JANUARY

LD081013Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention: On the order of Prime Minister Bakhtiar, as the fist step toward abolishing martial law throughout the country, martial law will be lifted in Shiraz effective tomorrow.

BAKHTIAR TO PRESENT PROGRAM TO MAJLIS 9 JANUARY

LD061715Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The Majlis is to hold an extraordinary meeting this coming Tuesday 9 January. Majlis speaker Dr Javad Sa'id told our correspondent that at the request of the government, the Majlis is to hold an extraordinary meeting.

At the meeting, which is to be held at 1000, Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar will submit the government's program to the Majlis and will also introduce members of his cabinet to the deputies.

NEW HEALTH MINISTER DISCUSSES PROGRAM

LD061729Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Dr Manuchehr Razmara, the new health and welfare minister, in an interview given to PARS NEWS AGENCY today, said: My program includes a comprehensive campaign against corruption as well as attending to the issue of providing treatment. We must get rid of redundant [word indistinct]. We will also abolish redundant posts. The minister of health and welfare added: Today I asked all advisers to return to their work.

The health and welfare minister today made certain changes at the managerial level in the ministry. He appointed Dr Saburi as managing director of the health and welfare organization of the central province, Dr (Torbati) as head of the Pasteur Institute and Dr Raja'i as the head of the Tehran emergency department.

Concluding his remarks, Dr Razmara pointed out: All the ministry's under secretaries have submitted their resignations in order to enable me to appoint new under secretaries. All these resignations have been accepted.

PARIS CORRESPONDENT INTERVIEWS SANJABI SPOKESMAN

LD051432Y Paris Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 5 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] [Announcer--Yves Loiseau] I understand that you have with you in Tehran Mr Salamatian, the spokesman for Mr Sanjabi, the leader of the National Front, the shah's political opposition. Where does this political opposition stand now that Mr Bakhtiar's government has been formed? Mention has been made of a big demonstration on Sunday. Is this to be a decisive thing for them?

[Correspondent Loiseau] Before we hear Mr Salamatian's remarks, let us clarify [words indistinct] victory of Ayatollah Khomeyni but also of the political opposition. I said yesterday that perhaps there were differences within the opposition. Has unity been restored, Mr Salamatian?

[Salamatian] There were no differences between the political and religious opposition on the subject of insuring the domestic consumption of oil. This was already in Ayatollah Khomeyni's statement when he asked the oil workers to do their utmost to assure production for domestic consumption so that oil can be produced to strengthen the resistance of the people, so that the cessation of oil supplies should trouble the enemy, those in power, and not the people.

There was only one problem: From the time when concerted rumors were being propagated throughout the country with the Bakhtiar story, according to which it was alleged that the National Front was implicated, there were problems concerning the oil workers. From the moment that it was made quite clear that the National Front completely rejected the Bakhtiar solution and that he had been removed from the National Front, from that moment the climate became clearer and the negotiations for the resumption of production for domestic consumption were resumed. One must point out that the resumption is solely for domestic consumption and that the oil will be under the control of a workers' committee which has been made responsible for controlling the distribution of oil within the country and for seeing to it that not a drop of oil is exported. The strike remains total and general as far as Iranian oil for export is concerned.

[Cloiseau] And what about Sunday's demonstration?

[Slamatian] Well, as for Sunday, the National Front has decided on a day of mourning and a general, total strike. The front has not decided to hold demonstrations. This morning there were reports from different provincial towns saying that people intended to organize demonstrations. This is also possible in Tehran. However, this does not reflect a decision by the National Front or by the other [word indistinct], which have not yet decided to stage demonstrations. Their chief concern is to demonstrate the people's desire to reject any solution marked by compromise and treachery and to protest the massacres of last week, which were very severe, very violent, and at the same time to avoid any needless bloodshed.

DELEGATION ARRIVES IN SHIRAZ FOR OIL TALKS

LD072026Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Jan 79 LD

[Summary] Engineer Mehdi Bazargan [associate of Bakhtiar] and his delegation have arrived in Shiraz for talks with Shiraz oil refinery workers. Following speeches addressed to the workers by Bazargan, a statement is expected to be issued tomorrow on the resumption of work by oil refinery workers in Shiraz.

RELIGIOUS LEADER'S HEALTH DETERIORATES

LD071302Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jan 79 LD

[Text] A spokesman for His Eminence Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari announced today that the ayatollah's condition has slightly deteriorated in the past 2 days. The ayatollah has not been well for the past 2 months. The spokesman added: His Eminence the Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari has had a temperature for the past 2 days, and his private physicians have asked him not to leave his bed. This has resulted in the ayatollah's not attending a demonstration which took place today in front of his house.

BANGLADESH

COMMISSION POSTPONES ELECTIONS TO 18 FEBRUARY

BK051735Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 5 Jan 79 BK

[Excerpt] The election commission has made certain modifications in the election schedule at the request of seven political parties to offer more opportunities for all to participate in the ensuing general elections to the parliament. The parties are: JSD [Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal], Awami League, Mizan Group, Jatiya League; Bangladesh Gonotantrik Andolon, UPP [United People's Party]; Sramik-Krishak Samajbadi Dal; and Jatiya Ekata Party.

According to an announcement by the election commission tonight, nominations will now be filed on the 16th of this month and the scrutiny will take place on the 17th and withdrawal on the 21st of this month. The polling will now be held on the 18th of February next. The last date of submission of applications by the political parties for allocation of election symbols has been extended up to the 14th of this month. The meeting about the finalization of symbols will be held on the following day, that is the 15th of this month at 9 am at the office of the election commission in Dacca.

INDIA

DELHI REPORTS NINE KILLED IN NAGALAND VIOLENCE

BK051617Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Jan 79 BK

[Text] Security measures all along the Assam and Nagaland border have been intensified following violent incidents in Sibsagar district of Assam bordering Nagaland this morning.

Giving this information, the Assam chief secretary, Mr Paramasivam told newsmen at Gauhati that at least nine people were killed and five others injured when a group of miscreants attacked a village near the interstate border with Nagaland. The miscreants burnt down 35 houses. Some violent incidents were also reported from (Chun Gajan-Panjam) area inside Rengma Forest in which 21 people have been killed. The Assam chief secretary said that army-police battalions have been deployed and reinforcements have been rushed to affected areas.

GDR'S HONECHER, ENTOURAGE ARRIVE ON OFFICIAL VISIT

BK080802Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 8 Jan 79 BK

[Excerpts] The general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party and chairman of the German Democratic Republic's [GDR] Council of State, Mr Erich Honecker, has arrived in New Delhi on a 5-day visit to the country. He was received at the airport by, among others, President Sanjiva Reddy; Prime Minister Morarji Desai and External Affairs Minister Vajpayee.

Welcoming the distinguished visitor President Sanjiva Reddy said India and the German Democratic Republic share a common comitment to the pursuit of peace and stability. The relations between the two countries have developed steadily over the years. He said India attaches great importance to Mr Honecker's visit as he represents a nation which has gained worldwide respect for its resurrection from the ashes of a tragic war. The president said that Mr Honecker's talks in New Delhi will impart a new dynamism to the existing bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

The visiting delegation includes, among others, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers Silli Stoph, and Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer.